



THE INDEPENDENT

No 3,704

TUESDAY 1 SEPTEMBER 1998

(150p) 45p

26-PAGE NEWS SECTION

Fayed: my Egyptian curse

NEWS, PAGE 3

28-PAGE LISTINGS SUPPLEMENT

**INSIDE: THE ONLY
OFFICIAL UCAS GUIDE
TO UNIVERSITY PLACES**

22-PAGE BROADSHEET REVIEW

**All the rage
in Ibiza**

COMMENT,
ARTS, HEALTH & MEDIA

Clinton flies in to Russian chaos

PRESIDENT Bill Clinton will arrive in Moscow today pledging continued US support for Russia so long as its leaders "stay on the path of reform" and do not revert to the communist ways of the past.

Speaking just before his departure to Moscow for two days of talks, Mr Clinton made no direct mention of the embattled Boris Yeltsin, who suffered a further setback yesterday with the Russian parliament's rejection of Viktor Chernomyrdin as prime minister.

"The Russian people are to be commended for embracing

BY PHIL REEVES
in Moscow
AND AGENCIES

democracy and getting rid of the old communist system, but they're having some troubles today making the transition from communism to a free-market economy," Mr Clinton said. He made clear, however, that he saw an important purpose in the summit, which some foreign policy experts have said should be postponed at least until Mr Yeltsin has created a governing coalition.

Russia's Communist-led

parliament roundly rejected President Yeltsin's nominee for prime minister in a move the Kremlin said could set off mass unrest and is certain to prolong the country's economic agony. Mr Chernomyrdin, who has been acting prime minister since Mr Yeltsin sacked Sergei Kiriyenko just over a week ago, won just 94 votes in the 450-member state Duma.

The rejection of Mr Yeltsin's candidate - the worst result ever for a Russian premiership nominee - also brought closer a major showdown, with pressure increasing on the ageing

Mr Yeltsin to quit and Mr Yeltsin, in turn, threatening to dissolve the Duma. The President re-submitted Mr Chernomyrdin's candidacy hours after the Duma's rejection, and members now have one week to reconsider.

Mr Chernomyrdin - who served five years as premier until Mr Yeltsin replaced him in March with Mr Kiriyenko - said that, despite his defeat, he would go ahead and propose an acting cabinet team to Mr Yeltsin. "Russia cannot do without a government," he said. "Russia today is, in essence, on

the verge of economic and political breakdown."

Back in the United States, President Clinton said: "What I want to do is to go there and tell them that the easy thing to do is not the right thing to do. The easy thing to do would be to go back to the way they did it before, and that's not possible. But that if they will stay on the path of reform to stabilise their society and strengthen their economy and get growth back, then I believe America and the rest of the Western nations should help them and indeed have an obligation to help them."

The acting prime minister had already made consider-

able concessions, including giving parliament more say in policy and promising to restore more state control over the economy, in draft pacts hammered out with the Duma parties over the weekend.

But the Communist leader, Gennady Zyuganov, meanwhile, promised the Duma he would protect the public's savings, prevent a collapse of the banking system and support farms and industry.

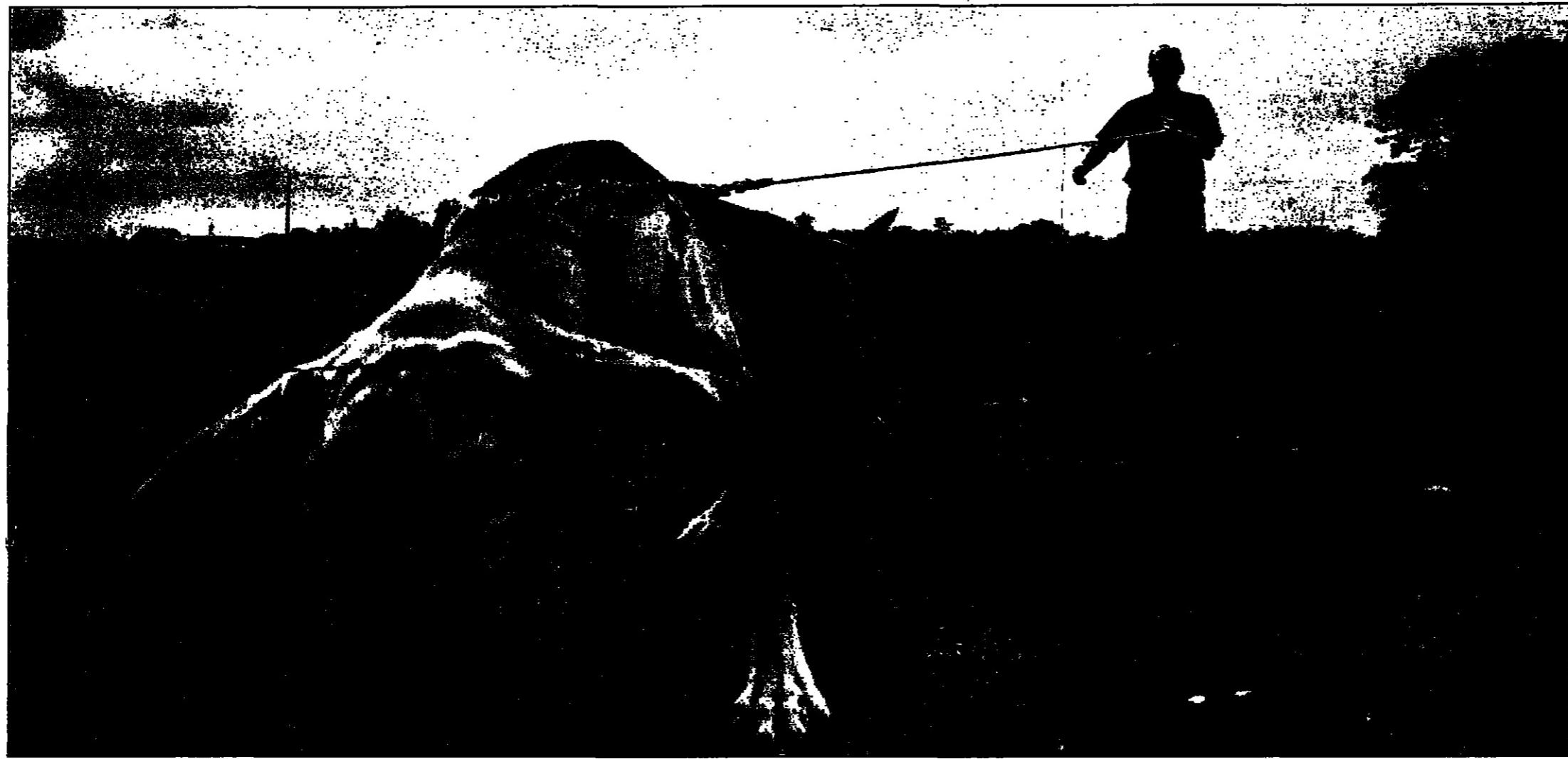
Analysts fear that could fuel new inflation.

The acting prime minister had already made consider-

able concessions, including giving parliament more say in policy and promising to restore more state control over the economy, in draft pacts hammered out with the Duma parties over the weekend.

They, and Mr Yeltsin's family, may be ready to press the president to quit in favour of his premier or at least take a back seat until his term ends in 2000.

Duma ignores warning:
Communist revival, page 8
Leading article,
Review, page 3



Sherlock the bloodhound gets on the trail with his trainer PC Malcolm Fish and shows why he is a better tracker than German Shepherds now used by police forces

David Rose

Hounds return to scene of the crime

BY JASON BENNETT
Crime Correspondent

BLOODHOUNDS, the wrinkled-faced stars of many a Hollywood thriller, look set to be used by British police forces following research that found they are far better tracked dogs than the traditional German Shepherds.

They are already being tested by Essex, Devon and Cornwall, and Dyfed-Powys police forces and a Home Office funded research project is to recommend using the dogs nationally. They can track human scent that is up to 20 hours old compared with German Shepherds that can only manage a maximum of about two hours.

PC Malcolm Fish, a dog instructor with Essex police, in charge of the research, is studying two eight-month-old Bloodhounds, Sherlock and Morse, along with two German Shepherd dogs, Regan and Scully. Critics say the dogs are too placid but PC Fish argues they would be used for tracking.

Blair plans new powers to seize assets of terrorists

BY PAUL WAUGH
Political Correspondent

SWEEPING POWERS to seize property belonging to suspected terrorists will be unveiled today as the Government details its security crackdown in the wake of the Omagh bombing.

The new measures will form the centrepiece of an emergency bill to go before a recalled Parliament tomorrow to make easier to convict members of inscribed terror groups.

Four organisations - the Real IRA, Continuity IRA, the Irish National Liberation Army (INA) and the Loyalist Volunteer Force (LVF) - will be specifically targeted in the bill.

By naming the groups in the Bill, the Government hopes to end off backbench criticism

that it is rushing through blanket legislation without detailed consideration.

Ministers insist that the Bill is highly specific and forensic in its nature and will have to be renewed annually to remain on the statute book.

The decision to publish the Bill today was another attempt to placate Labour MPs, some of whom were furious at earlier suggestions that it was to be made public tomorrow morning, only a few hours before they were due to vote.

The Bill will allow suspected members of the Real IRA, Continuity IRA, the INLA and

the LVF to be convicted on the uncorroborated evidence of a police officer and will allow courts to take into account any refusal to answer questions.

In an attempt to curb international terrorism, such as the bombings of United States embassies in east Africa, it will also contain measures to ban British-based groups that conspire to commit offences abroad.

Despite the Government's assurances, rebel Labour MPs are still planning to vote for an amendment drawn up by the party's former Northern Ireland spokesman Kevin McNamara.

Mr McNamara's amendment is expected to be tabled today and will claim that the Bill contravenes the European Con-

vention on Human Rights, the International Convention on Civil and Political Rights and the procedures of the newly established International Criminal Court. It will also claim that previous miscarriages of justice, such as the conviction of the Birmingham Six and Guildford Four, prove the dangers of sweeping police powers.

The Lords will consider the Bill on Thursday and if there are no substantial amendments it will become law.

The Irish government is also pushing through similar anti-terrorist measures this week and both governments want them in place ahead of the visit to Northern Ireland on Thursday by President Bill Clinton.

BY RICHARD LLOYD PARKER
in Tokyo

NORTH KOREA, the last surviving Stalinist dictatorship, proved once again that the Cold War is not quite over when it fired a long-range ballistic missile over the Japanese mainland yesterday, sending alarm throughout Asia.

The rocket was first spotted by an American Orion spy plane and last night Russian and Japanese ships were steaming towards the spot of Vladivostok, where the first stage of the missile is believed to have landed. A second stage was said to have flown over Japan to land in the Pacific Ocean - proof that the

a test, but given suspicions that North Korea may possess one or more nuclear warheads, its successful launch will increase tension in the region. The US Secretary of State, Madeleine Albright, said she was alarmed. "This is something that we will be raising with the North Koreans," she said.

According to defence officials in South Korea, the weapon was the new Taepo Dong I, with a range of 1,240 miles, capable of striking Tokyo, Taipei and Seoul.

The Japanese government's chief spokesman, Hironori Nakata, said the test "will have a serious impact on the situation in north-east Asia".

North Korea's missile programme has long been a cause

of concern, not only for the threat it poses to neighbouring countries but also because of the regime's sales of weapon systems to other countries. Pakistan, Iran, Iraq, Libya and Syria are all believed to have been buyers. Recently, sales have plummeted. Among the reasons for yesterday's test may have been the desire to advertise one of its biggest export earners.

But the timing suggests political motives. Next week North Korea's acting leader, Kim Jong II, is expected finally to be elected president. "One interpretation is that this missile is a gift, a demonstration of strength presented to the new leader on his accession," a foreign diplomat in Seoul said.

of concern, not only for the threat it poses to neighbouring countries but also because of the regime's sales of weapon systems to other countries. Pakistan, Iran, Iraq, Libya and Syria are all believed to have been buyers. Recently, sales have plummeted. Among the reasons for yesterday's test may have been the desire to advertise one of its biggest export earners.

But the timing suggests political motives. Next week North Korea's acting leader, Kim Jong II, is expected finally to be elected president. "One interpretation is that this missile is a gift, a demonstration of strength presented to the new leader on his accession," a foreign diplomat in Seoul said.

of concern, not only for the threat it poses to neighbouring countries but also because of the regime's sales of weapon systems to other countries. Pakistan, Iran, Iraq, Libya and Syria are all believed to have been buyers. Recently, sales have plummeted. Among the reasons for yesterday's test may have been the desire to advertise one of its biggest export earners.

But the timing suggests political motives. Next week North Korea's acting leader, Kim Jong II, is expected finally to be elected president. "One interpretation is that this missile is a gift, a demonstration of strength presented to the new leader on his accession," a foreign diplomat in Seoul said.

INSIDE

FULL CONTENTS
PAGE 2
TODAY'S TV
REVIEW, PAGE 22

HOME

Labour can win the next election on a tax raising manifesto, says a Blairite think-tank

PAGE 2

HOME

Hospitals are to be told by Frank Dobson to become more family friendly to nurses

PAGE 6

HOME

Louise Woodward has urged Britain not to allow TV cameras into courtrooms

PAGE 7

FOREIGN

Sudan is prepared to turn the page if the US admits it erred in bombing a factory

PAGE 9

FOREIGN

A bomb ripped through a market in the centre of the Algerian capital, killing 17 people

PAGE 10

BUSINESS

Dealers are braced for a fall in London shares after prices dropped on Wall Street

PAGE 12

SPORT

Muralitharan achieved the fifth best Test haul of 16 for 220 as Sri Lanka beat England

PAGE 22

36
Barcode
9 770951 946526

Turn Your Savings Around.

For the best financial advice available, call into your local branch. Or telephone us on 0800 222 397, 8am to 9pm Monday to Friday, and 8am to 4pm Saturday.

P150

To assist us in improving our service, we may record or monitor telephone calls. Abbey National, the Umbrella Couple symbol and Because life's complicated enough are trademarks of Abbey National plc, Abbey House, Baker Street, London NW1 6XL, United Kingdom.

Abbey National®

Because life's complicated enough.

INDEX**HOME NEWS**
PAGES 2 - 7**Call for statutory right to roam**

MPs called on the Government to push ahead with a statutory right to roam after campaigners claimed that landowners continued to block rights of way. Page 4

Worthing is most profitable town

Worthing in West Sussex is the most profitable town in Britain according to a survey. Page 4

Measles vaccine withdrawn

Parents concerned about inoculating their children against measles with the triple vaccine MMR will be forced to travel to Europe to buy single jabs. Page 5

FOREIGN NEWS

PAGES 8 - 11

Congo rebels suffer fresh defeat

The rebels in the Congo suffered a blow in the campaign to topple President Laurent Kabila. Page 10

Plans for two super-Eurocrats

Plans for two new super-Eurocrats who would become powerful voices for Europe on foreign and economic affairs are being discussed in Brussels. Page 11

BUSINESS NEWS

PAGES 12 - 15

Mutuals' worst month in 8 years

America's mutual fund industry, the engine of the bull market on Wall Street, is starting to sputter. Page 13

SPORTS NEWS

PAGES 16 - 22

Mansell crashes at Brands Hatch

Nigel Mansell made it four crashes in five outings in the British Touring Car championship when he twice came to grief at Brands Hatch. Page 17

Stockport end Wolves record

Wolves frittered away their 100 per cent record in the First Division, drawing 2-2 with Stockport. Page 21

TUESDAY REVIEW
22-PAGE BROADSHEET SECTION**David Aaronovitch**

'Morag was saying, in effect, that the Scots would not be stupid, superstitious or hidebound enough to fall for the Diana con like the silly English'. Page 3

Raymond Plant

'Taxation is at the heart of the relationship between the citizen and the state, a relationship subject in recent years to a significant loss of trust.' Page 4

Anne McElroy

'Chernomyrdin is a representative of the pragmatic mentality of the "red managers" who really kept the Soviet Union running in its terminal phase.' Page 5

Letters	2	Media	16-18
Leaders and comment	3-5	Listings	19-20
Obituaries	6-7	Games	21
Features	8-10	Radio, Satellite TV	21
Arts	11-13	Concise crossword	21
Health	14-15	Today's TV	22

Cryptic crossword, section one, page 22

**Landowners 'still blocking rights of way'**BY PAUL WAUGH
Political Correspondent

MPS CALLED on the Government to push ahead with a statutory right to roam yesterday after campaigners claimed that landowners continued to block rights of way. Page 4

The Ramblers' Association published a report it said proved the Country Landowners Association had done little to meet its promise to open up footpaths across private land. It claims that the leaked report into footpaths on a farm in Wiltshire was a perfect example of how the CLA had failed to improve public access.

The assessment, carried out by the CLA on behalf of the Countryside Commission, found that bridleways were blocked and that a special access site was restricted by electric fencing.

The Ramblers' Association said that the case proved that the £70,000 of public money given to the CLA to improve access had been wasted. Since the site visit to Wiltshire a year ago, little improvement had been made.

Under a scheme called Access 2000, the CLA was given the cash to fund full-time workers to tackle farmland nationwide where footpaths were blocked. Yet out of 20 planned assessments of problem land, just nine had been carried out and campaigners say that just 20 acres has been opened up in 18 months.

Gordon Prentice, MP for Pendle, said the report was further evidence that landowners could not be trusted voluntarily to guarantee public rights of way. He will ask the Deputy Prime Minister, John Prescott, to investigate allegations that the CLA wasted public funds.

The CLA claimed that in the past five years a total of 1.1 million acres had been opened up voluntarily by landowners.

It said that the Countryside Commission had not complained about the assessments and had even been part of a steering group to oversee its officer's work.

Ramblers walking past barbed wire yesterday in Long Cope, near Lane End in Buckinghamshire. John Voss

**Tax to win, says think-tank**BY COLIN BROWN
Chief Political Correspondent

Smith, which recommended Labour to back electoral reform on a tax-raising manifesto.

"Politically, this remains one of the most sensitive of political issues for the Labour Party," said the Fabian Society. "One of Labour's five election pledges was not to raise income tax rates in the present Parliament. It has become clear in the Government's first few months that this policy is absolutely non-negotiable. Indeed there is a sense in which both

inside the Labour Party and to a considerable extent outside it, the subject of taxation is becoming practically taboo."

The think-tank said the image of a "knee-jerk tax and spend approach to politics was a major contributor to voter disaffection from old Labour". And it added: "In turn, a commitment to keeping taxes low has been one of the defining features of new Labour."

But the demand for public spending particularly in health and education, continued to rise not least because of the Government's own public com-

mitments. "In this context, a public debate about taxation is long overdue. The Labour Party's sensitivity to electoral and media pressure make it highly unlikely that such a debate will be initiated from within the Government."

Lord Plant's commission will look at ways of re-establishing public acceptance for higher taxation, possibly through earmarking of taxes for specific projects. It will also carry out a comprehensive review of the structure of the tax system in this country.

Mistrust of governments

over their promises on taxation is blamed by the Fabian Society as one reason for widespread public disaffection from politics and political institutions in the UK. "The narrow terrain over which taxation policy has been argued in recent years – focusing almost entirely on headline personal tax rates – has been extremely damaging," said the Fabians.

Tony Blair overruled plans by Gordon Brown before the general election to introduce a 50p income tax band, but ministers believe new ways need to be found to raise taxes for

"good causes" such as curbing pollution.

John Prescott, the Deputy Prime Minister, has secured a deal with the Chancellor for raising tax to curb car use on the understanding that the money will be kept for use on public transport.

Mr Brown is expected to announce plans in the autumn pre-Budget statement for an energy tax on industry if it is backed by a working party under Sir Colin Marshall, former president of the CBI.

Memorandum to Mr Blair
Review, page 4

IRA told to hand over weapons and bombsBY ALAN MURDOCH
in Dublin

THE IRA came under pressure last night to get rid of its weapons and declare its war is over.

Mo Mowlam, Secretary of State for Northern Ireland, said there was cause for concern that the IRA was still intent on keeping its guns and bombs while at the same time it called for those behind the Omagh bombing – the dissident Real IRA – to disband.

And both David Trimble,

its ceasefire permanent caused widespread dismay on both sides of the Irish border.

The Stormont deputy first minister-elect Seamus Mallon attacked the IRA's implication that it would not even divest itself of Semtex explosive. "Within the entire island of Ireland the attitude is that anything which is part and parcel of the type of explosion which we saw in Omagh has no role in the life that we want to create," he said.

With unequivocal commitment to democracy being widely demanded in the wake of the Omagh atrocity, an IRA statement insisting it would not decommission or formally declare

The tough stance of Mr Bruton, leader of Fine Gael, will reinforce Ulster Unionists' unwillingness to accept Sinn Féin ministers in a Stormont executive unless they confirm the end of republican militarism. Sinn Féin is under pressure to give such a reassurance before President Clinton's arrival in Ireland on Thursday.

Mr Bruton, Taoiseach from 1995 until June last year, said it was "unthinkable" that "a cabinet minister with a private army that is still defying the state's laws" should hold office.

"Refusal to say that the war is over means that the IRA reserves the right to use warfare to get its way in defiance of the will of the people North and South" in May's referendum, he said.

A County Kildare man was charged in Dublin's Special Criminal Court with terrorist offences following the seizure of 1,000lb of home-made explosives at Dun Laoghaire ferry port in April. The bomb was believed to have been destined for use against a target in Britain. John McNamara, 36, of Kilcock, was charged with possession of explosives on 2 April with intent to cause explosions likely to endanger life or cause serious injury whether in the Irish state or elsewhere. He was arrested at his home early on Saturday.

1,000lb of home-made explosives at Dun Laoghaire ferry port in April. The bomb was believed to have been destined for use against a target in Britain.

John McNamara, 36, of Kilcock, was charged with possession of explosives on 2 April with intent to cause explosions likely to endanger life or cause serious injury whether in the Irish state or elsewhere. He was arrested at his home early on Saturday.

1,000lb of home-made explosives at Dun Laoghaire ferry port in April. The bomb was believed to have been destined for use against a target in Britain.

John McNamara, 36, of Kilcock, was charged with possession of explosives on 2 April with intent to cause explosions likely to endanger life or cause serious injury whether in the Irish state or elsewhere. He was arrested at his home early on Saturday.

1,000lb of home-made explosives at Dun Laoghaire ferry port in April. The bomb was believed to have been destined for use against a target in Britain.

John McNamara, 36, of Kilcock, was charged with possession of explosives on 2 April with intent to cause explosions likely to endanger life or cause serious injury whether in the Irish state or elsewhere. He was arrested at his home early on Saturday.

1,000lb of home-made explosives at Dun Laoghaire ferry port in April. The bomb was believed to have been destined for use against a target in Britain.

John McNamara, 36, of Kilcock, was charged with possession of explosives on 2 April with intent to cause explosions likely to endanger life or cause serious injury whether in the Irish state or elsewhere. He was arrested at his home early on Saturday.

1,000lb of home-made explosives at Dun Laoghaire ferry port in April. The bomb was believed to have been destined for use against a target in Britain.

John McNamara, 36, of Kilcock, was charged with possession of explosives on 2 April with intent to cause explosions likely to endanger life or cause serious injury whether in the Irish state or elsewhere. He was arrested at his home early on Saturday.

1,000lb of home-made explosives at Dun Laoghaire ferry port in April. The bomb was believed to have been destined for use against a target in Britain.

John McNamara, 36, of Kilcock, was charged with possession of explosives on 2 April with intent to cause explosions likely to endanger life or cause serious injury whether in the Irish state or elsewhere. He was arrested at his home early on Saturday.

1,000lb of home-made explosives at Dun Laoghaire ferry port in April. The bomb was believed to have been destined for use against a target in Britain.

John McNamara, 36, of Kilcock, was charged with possession of explosives on 2 April with intent to cause explosions likely to endanger life or cause serious injury whether in the Irish state or elsewhere. He was arrested at his home early on Saturday.

1,000lb of home-made explosives at Dun Laoghaire ferry port in April. The bomb was believed to have been destined for use against a target in Britain.

John McNamara, 36, of Kilcock, was charged with possession of explosives on 2 April with intent to cause explosions likely to endanger life or cause serious injury whether in the Irish state or elsewhere. He was arrested at his home early on Saturday.

1,000lb of home-made explosives at Dun Laoghaire ferry port in April. The bomb was believed to have been destined for use against a target in Britain.

John McNamara, 36, of Kilcock, was charged with possession of explosives on 2 April with intent to cause explosions likely to endanger life or cause serious injury whether in the Irish state or elsewhere. He was arrested at his home early on Saturday.

1,000lb of home-made explosives at Dun Laoghaire ferry port in April. The bomb was believed to have been destined for use against a target in Britain.

John McNamara, 36, of Kilcock, was charged with possession of explosives on 2 April with intent to cause explosions likely to endanger life or cause serious injury whether in the Irish state or elsewhere. He was arrested at his home early on Saturday.

1,000lb of home-made explosives at Dun Laoghaire ferry port in April. The bomb was believed to have been destined for use against a target in Britain.

John McNamara, 36, of Kilcock, was charged with possession of explosives on 2 April with intent to cause explosions likely to endanger life or cause serious injury whether in the Irish state or elsewhere. He was arrested at his home early on Saturday.

1,000lb of home-made explosives at Dun Laoghaire ferry port in April. The bomb was believed to have been destined for use against a target in Britain.

John McNamara, 36, of Kilcock, was charged with possession of explosives on 2 April with intent to cause explosions likely to endanger life or cause serious injury whether in the Irish state or elsewhere. He was arrested at his home early on Saturday.

1,000lb of home-made explosives at Dun Laoghaire ferry port in April. The bomb was believed to have been destined for use against a target in Britain.

John McNamara, 36, of Kilcock, was charged with possession of explosives on 2 April with intent to cause explosions likely to endanger life or cause serious injury whether in the Irish state or elsewhere. He was arrested at his home early on Saturday.

1,000lb of home-made explosives at Dun Laoghaire ferry port in April. The bomb was believed to have been destined for use against a target in Britain.

John McNamara, 36, of Kilcock, was charged with possession of explosives on 2 April with intent to cause explosions likely to endanger life or cause serious injury whether in the Irish state or elsewhere. He was arrested at his home early on Saturday.

1,000lb of home-made explosives at Dun Laoghaire ferry port in April. The bomb was believed to have been destined for use against a target in Britain.

John McNamara, 36, of Kilcock, was charged with possession of explosives on 2 April with intent to cause explosions likely to endanger life or cause serious injury whether in the Irish state or elsewhere. He was arrested at his home early on Saturday.

1,000lb of home-made explosives at Dun Laoghaire ferry port in April. The bomb was believed to have been destined for use against a target in Britain.

John McNamara, 36, of Kilcock, was charged with possession of explosives on 2 April with intent to cause explosions likely to endanger life or cause serious injury whether in the Irish state or elsewhere. He was arrested at his home early on Saturday.

1,000lb of home-made explosives at Dun Laoghaire ferry port in April. The bomb was believed to have been destined for use against a target in Britain.

John McNamara, 36, of Kilcock, was charged with possession of explosives on 2 April with intent to cause explosions likely to endanger life or cause serious injury whether in the Irish state or elsewhere. He was arrested at his home early on Saturday.

1,000lb of home-made explosives at Dun Laoghaire ferry port in April. The bomb was believed to have been destined for use against a target in Britain.

John McNamara, 36, of Kilcock, was charged with possession of explosives on 2 April with intent to cause explosions likely to endanger life or cause serious injury whether in the Irish state or elsewhere. He was arrested at his home early on Saturday.

1,000lb of home-made explosives at Dun Laoghaire ferry port in April. The bomb was believed to have been destined for use against a target in Britain.

<p

Diana anniversary: All-night vigils in Paris and London, floral tributes at Kensington Palace and Harrods

Royal Family pray while Fayed unveils a shrine and a curse

BY GLENDA COOPER

"ARE WE allowed to smile?" said one girl posing in front of the shrine to Diana and Dodi as her mother took her photograph. "Yes, of course - let's have a nice smile," said her mother, in astonishment, clicking away.

Having a shrine to Diana and Dodi in Harrods inevitably meant more spectacle than solemnity. While the Windsors and the Spencers yesterday opted for low-key commemorations of the Princess, the tribute by Mohamed Al Fayed was huge, opulent and impossible to ignore.

Mr Fayed strode into the store at 1.45pm promising that his "Egyptian curse" would seek out those responsible for the Paris deaths. He said he had come to Harrods because he knew "thousands of people were here waiting for me ... it is the ordinary people who have given me support. They know exactly what's happened."

With both families out of London - the Windsors at Balmoral and the Spencers at Althorp - once again the public grumbled that the Royal Family were hiding from the People. ("They haven't learnt a thing," one quipped.) So the shrine, the tributes and Mr Fayed's walkabout followed by burly minders and scurrying journalists was the nearest they came to a semblance of last year's drama. If Diana's relations didn't want to know, then the people would stick with Dodi's.

People clutching their Harrods roses and their Harrods food hall bags (the prudent had obviously decided to combine the mourning with a bit of shopping) queued to look at the two shrines, one in the window, destined for Mr Fayed's home, and the other at the foot of the Egyptian escalator. Five books of condolence were ready to be signed.

"God bless you Dodi and Diana, you are in Paradise" ... "You will always be together in Heaven" ... "Dodi you will never be forgotten by the genuine English people" ... "Dodi, the only man never to betray the princess" were a sample of the sentiments expressed.

For this was Dodi and Diana - The Love Story. Never mind that their romance had been a mere few weeks, or that her friends cast doubt on whether the relationship would have



Mohamed Al Fayed on walkabout yesterday outside Harrods. "I am sure they are happy together," he said. Right: an 8ft-high shrine to the Princess and Dodi Fayed inside the store Tom Pilston



developed. No, this was Abelard and Heloise, Romeo and Juliet, Tristan and Isolde all rolled into one. Whether people would have been as happy with a Mr and Mrs Fayed in reality was not open for discussion.

"The Establishment will not accept that Dodi as an Egyptian and as my son would have been the man that would have married Diana," said Mr Fayed yesterday. "I pray my beloved son and his dearest Diana have found peace and comfort in heaven. I am sure they are happy together."

Few disagreed. Dorrie Mitzman's remark - "It was only a holiday romance and I don't think anything would have come of it" - was not the sort that was appreciated.

"They would have definitely got married and they would have had a child," predicted Rose Drew, who was waiting to give her flowers personally to Mr Fayed. "Oh really, how can you say to me it was just a holiday romance?"

"I think it's important that we've come here for both Dodi and Diana," said Sheila Cooper-

er from Twickenham. "He made her very happy in the last few months of her life. No other man had."

The off-high shrines reflected this romantic view. Large and ornate, two gold entwined D's encircle pictures of the two lovers resting on top of bronze fountains. In the background the new CD by George Benson (£3.99, available around the store) in honour of Dodi softly played. In another corner there were tributes including a 4ft-tall red heart left by well-wishers.

"The shrine symbolises Diana and Dodi's last holiday together when they were both very happy," explained Laurie Mayer, Mr Fayed's spokesman. "The seagulls and the greenery are reminiscent of the Mediterranean, the water represents eternity and the candles are obviously everlasting."

Most of those who came had visited Kensington Gardens or Buckingham Palace last year and were planning to go there after visiting Harrods. They were firmly supportive of Mr Fayed.

"I think it's disgusting," said Mary Meshabati from Ruselip. "I don't know why they can't just give him British citizenship."

We know that Dodi was the only man that ever made her happy."

Mr Fayed reiterated his feelings about last year's crash: "I am just looking to God. I will not rest," he said. "If it is not an accident and if it is murder, be sure that whoever did this murder will not escape from God. My Egyptian curse will not let them get away with it."

Asked if he had any message

for the Royal Family, there was a pointed pause. "I'm not sure about that, really. I feel sorry for the princes. They are very close, very loving and the most important thing to me ... But I am suffering too. I lost my son."

Clutching their CDs and flowers, most mourners agreed. "The Royal Family should be here. They haven't learnt anything," said Pauline Cheddy from Beth. "I feel sorry for the princes and I think people will never forget Diana and the way she was treated by

them," added Natalie Epsom from Adelaide, Australia.

Last night the Harrods store, normally illuminated by 11,000 lightbulbs, was to remain in darkness except for the memorial window. It was the sort of gesture the people outside liked.

Diana captured Dodi's heart. They represent lovers everywhere," cooed Ms Drew.

And then, on a more practical note, she added: "And [Mr Fayed] is the only person who has put up a memorial that people can come and see for free."

No hysteria, but lots of flowers, tears and flags flying at half mast



A child lights a candle for Diana in Westminster Abbey yesterday

BY STEVE BOOGAN AND LOUISE JURY

THE HYSTERICALLY outpouring of grief never materialised, but there was enough evidence of mourning yesterday to show that, one year on, the Princess of Wales still occupies a special place in the nation's psyche.

All day long, people queued, some in tears, at Kensington Palace to lay flowers in her memory while less than a mile away, others gathered at the memorial to Diana and Dodi Fayed at Harrods.

Cathie Kirk at Balmoral where, only hours after their mother's death, the Princesses William and Harry were taken to pray, was once again the place chosen by the Royal Family to remember Diana. The public were excluded for a 15-minute service when prayers were said for the Princess.

The Prime Minister, Tony Blair, and his wife, Cherie, arrived first at the small church, followed later by the Queen, the Duke of Edinburgh, the Queen Mother, Prince Edward, the Princess Royal, her husband,

Captain Timothy Laurence, and her daughter, Zara Phillips.

At Althorp, the Spencer family seat in Northamptonshire, the public was also excluded from a small lakeside service opposite the island on which the princess is buried. Instead, thousands laid flowers at the gates of the estate.

Earl Spencer, who shocked the Royal Family with his criticism of them from the pulpit at Westminster Abbey, joined other family members, including his sisters, Lady Jane Fellowes and Lady Sarah McCorquodale, for a quiet ceremony. For the past two months, up to 2,500 people a day have paid £9.50 to visit her memorial.

Prayers were said at services at Westminster Abbey, while, at the Roman Catholic Cathedral in Westminster, more than 1,000 people heard Monsignor George Stack speak of Diana's dignity and compassion. "It

has surely been a surprise to us all that it seems it was her vulnerability which allowed people to empathise with her," he said.

At Buckingham Palace, the flag was flown at half-mast, in contrast to last year when none was raised as the Queen was not in residence - until a public outcry forced it aloft.

And there were prayers, too, in Paris, where hundreds of mourners, including many Britons, staged an all-night vigil above the Paul D'Alma underpass, where the Princess and Dodi died exactly a year earlier at 11.25pm British summer time. At the Statue of Liberty dome, visitors left flowers and wrote messages and poems in many languages.

But it was at Kensington Palace where, once again, most grief was displayed. About 100 people had maintained a candlelight vigil over night. By dawn, their numbers began to swell considerably. The mood outside Diana's old home was quiet, reflective, but, unlike last year, not

so many people stood with tears running down their faces.

Ian Jackman, 34, a hotel manager and a devoted fan who had spoken to Diana over 100 times, flew back to Britain yesterday morning from Paris where he and three friends had spent the anniversary of her last evening with Dodi at the scene of the crash. "It was very emotional," he said.

Diana Millinship, 55, and her friend Jacqueline Bell, 53, had travelled from Ilkeston, near Derby, as they had not come last year. First they took flowers to Harrods, then to Kensington together with a verse written by a colleague at the upholstery factory where they work.

Unlike last year, the Royals were quick to show their appreciation. The Queen's spokesman said: "The Queen and the Royal Family, particularly the Prince of Wales, Prince William and Prince Harry, would like to thank people for their messages and kind gestures of sympathy at this sad time."

"So how's the weather at your end?"

IAN JACKMAN, 34, A HOTEL MANAGER, STAGED AN ALL-NIGHT VIGIL ABOVE THE PAUL D'ALMA UNDERPASS, WHERE THE PRINCESS AND DODI DIED EXACTLY A YEAR EARLIER AT 11.25PM BRITISH SUMMER TIME. AT THE STATUE OF LIBERTY DOME, VISITORS LEFT FLOWERS AND WROTE MESSAGES AND POEMS IN MANY LANGUAGES.

IT WAS A QUIET, REFLECTIVE, BUT NOT SO QUIET AS LAST YEAR, OUTSIDE DIANA'S OLD HOME IN KENSINGTON PALACE. HERE, IAN JACKMAN, 34, A HOTEL MANAGER, STAGED AN ALL-NIGHT VIGIL ABOVE THE PAUL D'ALMA UNDERPASS, WHERE THE PRINCESS AND DODI DIED EXACTLY A YEAR EARLIER AT 11.25PM BRITISH SUMMER TIME. AT THE STATUE OF LIBERTY DOME, VISITORS LEFT FLOWERS AND WROTE MESSAGES AND POEMS IN MANY LANGUAGES.

UNLIKE LAST YEAR, THE ROYALS WERE QUICK TO SHOW THEIR APPRECIATION. THE QUEEN'S SPEAKER SAID: "THE QUEEN AND THE ROYAL FAMILY, PARTICULARLY THE PRINCE OF WALES, PRINCE WILLIAM AND PRINCE HARRY, WOULD LIKE TO THANK PEOPLE FOR THEIR MESSAGES AND KIND GESTURES OF SYMPATHY AT THIS SAD TIME."

IN PARIS, WHERE THE PRINCESS DIED, THERE WAS A QUIET, REFLECTIVE VIGIL OVER NIGHT. HERE, IAN JACKMAN, 34, A HOTEL MANAGER, STAGED AN ALL-NIGHT VIGIL ABOVE THE PAUL D'ALMA UNDERPASS, WHERE THE PRINCESS AND DODI DIED EXACTLY A YEAR EARLIER AT 11.25PM BRITISH SUMMER TIME. AT THE STATUE OF LIBERTY DOME, VISITORS LEFT FLOWERS AND WROTE MESSAGES AND POEMS IN MANY LANGUAGES.

IN LONDON, THE MEMORIAL SERVICE AT KENSINGTON PALACE WAS QUIET, REFLECTIVE, BUT NOT SO QUIET AS LAST YEAR, OUTSIDE DIANA'S OLD HOME IN KENSINGTON PALACE. HERE, IAN JACKMAN, 34, A HOTEL MANAGER, STAGED AN ALL-NIGHT VIGIL ABOVE THE PAUL D'ALMA UNDERPASS, WHERE THE PRINCESS AND DODI DIED EXACTLY A YEAR EARLIER AT 11.25PM BRITISH SUMMER TIME. AT THE STATUE OF LIBERTY DOME, VISITORS LEFT FLOWERS AND WROTE MESSAGES AND POEMS IN MANY LANGUAGES.

IN PARIS, WHERE THE PRINCESS DIED, THERE WAS A QUIET, REFLECTIVE VIGIL OVER NIGHT. HERE, IAN JACKMAN, 34, A HOTEL MANAGER, STAGED AN ALL-NIGHT VIGIL ABOVE THE PAUL D'ALMA UNDERPASS, WHERE THE PRINCESS AND DODI DIED EXACTLY A YEAR EARLIER AT 11.25PM BRITISH SUMMER TIME. AT THE STATUE OF LIBERTY DOME, VISITORS LEFT FLOWERS AND WROTE MESSAGES AND POEMS IN MANY LANGUAGES.

IN LONDON, THE MEMORIAL SERVICE AT KENSINGTON PALACE WAS QUIET, REFLECTIVE, BUT NOT SO QUIET AS LAST YEAR, OUTSIDE DIANA'S OLD HOME IN KENSINGTON PALACE. HERE, IAN JACKMAN, 34, A HOTEL MANAGER, STAGED AN ALL-NIGHT VIGIL ABOVE THE PAUL D'ALMA UNDERPASS, WHERE THE PRINCESS AND DODI DIED EXACTLY A YEAR EARLIER AT 11.25PM BRITISH SUMMER TIME. AT THE STATUE OF LIBERTY DOME, VISITORS LEFT FLOWERS AND WROTE MESSAGES AND POEMS IN MANY LANGUAGES.

IN PARIS, WHERE THE PRINCESS DIED, THERE WAS A QUIET, REFLECTIVE VIGIL OVER NIGHT. HERE, IAN JACKMAN, 34, A HOTEL MANAGER, STAGED AN ALL-NIGHT VIGIL ABOVE THE PAUL D'ALMA UNDERPASS, WHERE THE PRINCESS AND DODI DIED EXACTLY A YEAR EARLIER AT 11.25PM BRITISH SUMMER TIME. AT THE STATUE OF LIBERTY DOME, VISITORS LEFT FLOWERS AND WROTE MESSAGES AND POEMS IN MANY LANGUAGES.

IN LONDON, THE MEMORIAL SERVICE AT KENSINGTON PALACE WAS QUIET, REFLECTIVE, BUT NOT SO QUIET AS LAST YEAR, OUTSIDE DIANA'S OLD HOME IN KENSINGTON PALACE. HERE, IAN JACKMAN, 34, A HOTEL MANAGER, STAGED AN ALL-NIGHT VIGIL ABOVE THE PAUL D'ALMA UNDERPASS, WHERE THE PRINCESS AND DODI DIED EXACTLY A YEAR EARLIER AT 11.25PM BRITISH SUMMER TIME. AT THE STATUE OF LIBERTY DOME, VISITORS LEFT FLOWERS AND WROTE MESSAGES AND POEMS IN MANY LANGUAGES.

IN PARIS, WHERE THE PRINCESS DIED, THERE WAS A QUIET, REFLECTIVE VIGIL OVER NIGHT. HERE, IAN JACKMAN, 34, A HOTEL MANAGER, STAGED AN ALL-NIGHT VIGIL ABOVE THE PAUL D'ALMA UNDERPASS, WHERE THE PRINCESS AND DODI DIED EXACTLY A YEAR EARLIER AT 11.25PM BRITISH SUMMER TIME. AT THE STATUE OF LIBERTY DOME, VISITORS LEFT FLOWERS AND WROTE MESSAGES AND POEMS IN MANY LANGUAGES.

IN LONDON, THE MEMORIAL SERVICE AT KENSINGTON PALACE WAS QUIET, REFLECTIVE, BUT NOT SO QUIET AS LAST YEAR, OUTSIDE DIANA'S OLD HOME IN KENSINGTON PALACE. HERE, IAN JACKMAN, 34, A HOTEL MANAGER, STAGED AN ALL-NIGHT VIGIL ABOVE THE PAUL D'ALMA UNDERPASS, WHERE THE PRINCESS AND DODI DIED EXACTLY A YEAR EARLIER AT 11.25PM BRITISH SUMMER TIME. AT THE STATUE OF LIBERTY DOME, VISITORS LEFT FLOWERS AND WROTE MESSAGES AND POEMS IN MANY LANGUAGES.

IN PARIS, WHERE THE PRINCESS DIED, THERE WAS A QUIET, REFLECTIVE VIGIL OVER NIGHT. HERE, IAN JACKMAN, 34, A HOTEL MANAGER, STAGED AN ALL-NIGHT VIGIL ABOVE THE PAUL D'ALMA UNDERPASS, WHERE THE PRINCESS AND DODI DIED EXACTLY A YEAR EARLIER AT 11.25PM BRITISH SUMMER TIME. AT THE STATUE OF LIBERTY DOME, VISITORS LEFT FLOWERS AND WROTE MESSAGES AND POEMS IN MANY LANGUAGES.

IN LONDON, THE MEMORIAL SERVICE AT KENSINGTON PALACE WAS QUIET, REFLECTIVE, BUT NOT SO QUIET AS LAST YEAR, OUTSIDE DIANA'S OLD HOME IN KENSINGTON PALACE. HERE, IAN JACKMAN, 34, A HOTEL MANAGER, STAGED AN ALL-NIGHT VIGIL ABOVE THE PAUL D'ALMA UNDERPASS, WHERE THE PRINCESS AND DODI DIED EXACTLY A YEAR EARLIER AT 11.25PM BRITISH SUMMER TIME. AT THE STATUE OF LIBERTY DOME, VISITORS LEFT FLOWERS AND WROTE MESSAGES AND POEMS IN MANY LANGUAGES.

IN PARIS, WHERE THE PRINCESS DIED, THERE WAS A QUIET, REFLECTIVE VIGIL OVER NIGHT. HERE, IAN JACKMAN, 34, A HOTEL MANAGER, STAGED AN ALL-NIGHT VIGIL ABOVE THE PAUL D'ALMA UNDERPASS, WHERE THE PRINCESS AND DODI DIED EXACTLY A YEAR EARLIER AT 11.25PM BRITISH SUMMER TIME. AT THE STATUE OF LIBERTY DOME, VISITORS LEFT FLOWERS AND WROTE MESSAGES AND POEMS IN MANY LANGUAGES.

IN LONDON, THE MEMORIAL SERVICE AT KENSINGTON PALACE WAS QUIET, REFLECTIVE, BUT NOT SO QUIET AS LAST YEAR, OUTSIDE DIANA'S OLD HOME IN KENSINGTON PALACE. HERE, IAN JACKMAN, 34, A HOTEL MANAGER, STAGED AN ALL-NIGHT VIGIL ABOVE THE PAUL D'ALMA UNDERPASS, WHERE THE PRINCESS AND DODI DIED EXACTLY A YEAR EARLIER AT 11.25PM BRITISH SUMMER TIME. AT THE STATUE OF LIBERTY DOME, VISITORS LEFT FLOWERS AND WROTE MESSAGES AND POEMS IN MANY LANGUAGES.

IN PARIS, WHERE THE PRINCESS DIED, THERE WAS A QUIET, REFLECTIVE VIGIL OVER NIGHT. HERE, IAN JACKMAN, 34, A HOTEL MANAGER, STAGED AN ALL-NIGHT VIGIL ABOVE THE PAUL D'ALMA UNDERPASS, WHERE THE PRINCESS AND DODI DIED EXACTLY A YEAR EARLIER AT 11.25PM BRITISH SUMMER TIME. AT THE STATUE OF LIBERTY DOME, VISITORS LEFT FLOWERS AND WROTE MESSAGES AND POEMS IN MANY LANGUAGES.

IN LONDON, THE MEMORIAL SERVICE AT KENSINGTON PALACE WAS QUIET, REFLECTIVE, BUT NOT SO QUIET AS LAST YEAR, OUTSIDE DIANA'S OLD HOME IN KENSINGTON PALACE. HERE, IAN JACKMAN, 34, A HOTEL MANAGER, STAGED AN ALL-NIGHT VIGIL ABOVE THE PAUL D'ALMA UNDERPASS, WHERE THE PRINCESS AND DODI DIED EXACTLY A YEAR EARLIER AT 11.25PM BRITISH SUMMER TIME. AT THE STATUE OF LIBERTY DOME, VISITORS LEFT FLOWERS AND WROTE MESSAGES AND POEMS IN MANY LANGUAGES.

IN PARIS, WHERE THE PRINCESS DIED, THERE WAS A QUIET, REFLECTIVE VIGIL OVER NIGHT. HERE, IAN JACKMAN, 34, A HOTEL MANAGER, STAGED AN ALL-NIGHT VIGIL ABOVE THE PAUL D'ALMA UNDERPASS, WHERE THE PRINCESS AND DODI DIED EXACTLY A YEAR EARLIER AT 11.25PM BRITISH SUMMER TIME. AT THE STATUE OF LIBERTY DOME, VISITORS LEFT FLOWERS AND WROTE MESSAGES AND POEMS IN MANY LANGUAGES.

IN LONDON, THE MEMORIAL SERVICE AT KENSINGTON PALACE WAS QUIET, REFLECTIVE, BUT NOT SO QUIET AS LAST YEAR, OUTSIDE DIANA'S OLD HOME IN KENSINGTON PALACE. HERE, IAN JACKMAN, 34, A HOTEL MANAGER, STAGED AN ALL-NIGHT VIGIL ABOVE THE PAUL D'ALMA UNDERPASS, WHERE THE PRINCESS AND DODI DIED EXACTLY A YEAR EARLIER AT 11.25PM BRITISH SUMMER TIME. AT THE STATUE OF LIBERTY DOME, VISITORS LEFT FLOWERS AND WROTE MESSAGES AND POEMS IN MANY LANGUAGES.

IN PARIS, WHERE THE PRINCESS DIED, THERE WAS A QUIET, REFLECTIVE VIGIL OVER NIGHT. HERE, IAN JACKMAN, 34, A HOTEL MANAGER, STAGED AN ALL-NIGHT VIGIL ABOVE THE PAUL D'ALMA UNDERPASS, WHERE THE PRINCESS AND DODI DIED EXACTLY A YEAR EARLIER AT 11.25PM BRITISH SUMMER TIME. AT THE STATUE OF LIBERTY DOME, VISITORS LEFT FLOWERS AND WROTE MESSAGES AND POEMS IN MANY LANGUAGES.

IN LONDON, THE MEMORIAL SERVICE AT KENSINGTON PALACE WAS QUIET, REFLECTIVE, BUT NOT SO QUIET AS LAST YEAR, OUTSIDE DIANA'S OLD HOME IN KENSINGTON PALACE. HERE, IAN JACKMAN, 34, A HOTEL MANAGER, STAGED AN ALL-NIGHT VIGIL ABOVE THE PAUL D'ALMA UNDERPASS, WHERE THE PRINCESS AND DODI DIED EXACTLY A YEAR EARLIER AT 11.25PM BRITISH SUMMER TIME. AT THE STATUE OF LIBERTY DOME, VISITORS LEFT FLOWERS AND WROTE MESSAGES AND POEMS IN MANY LANGUAGES.

IN PARIS, WHERE THE PRINCESS DIED, THERE WAS A QUIET, REFLECTIVE VIGIL OVER NIGHT. HERE, IAN JACKMAN, 34, A HOTEL MANAGER, STAGED AN ALL-NIGHT VIGIL ABOVE THE PAUL D'ALMA UNDERPASS, WHERE THE PRINCESS AND DODI DIED EXACT

Britain's tiger economy is Worthing

BY ANDREW BUNCOMBE

ENVY THE lucky traders and business people of Worthing.

The south-coast resort, known for its genteel atmosphere, Regency architecture and bracing sea air, is the most profitable town in Britain according to a new survey.

The figures show that businesses in the West Sussex town enjoy an average profit margin of around 21 per cent.

Britain's next most profitable town, Warrington, scores just under 20 per cent, while businesses in Dundee, placed third, achieve an average profit rate of almost 19 per cent.

Some people might be surprised by the findings. To many Worthing is the epitome of a quiet, polite and even rather dull seaside town, a far cry from fashionable Brighton, its racier neighbour.

Few would expect it's residents - many of whom are retired - to be so industrious. The thought of tiger economies does not spring instantly to mind.

But findings of the survey, carried out by the global information group Experian, suggest profitable towns share

a number of characteristics. These include excellent communication and transport links, a high number of skilled workers and a well-established manufacturing base.

Many profitable areas are seeing an expansion into high-tech business services.

Yesterday, Worthing Borough Council's economic development officer Tim Preston, said the town fulfilled all these criteria.

"Major companies coming to Worthing have recognised the professionalism and skill of our labour force, coupled with the fact that the number of school-leavers achieving more than five GCSEs with grades C or above is 10 per cent above

the national average," he said. "In addition the town has excellent transport links, including easy access to Gatwick Airport, the Channel ports and the Channel Tunnel."

He said companies investing in the town included the Daewoo Motor Company, SmithKline Beecham Pharmaceuticals, and Griffin Credit Services.

The survey which analysed the profits of around 200,000 companies in England, Wales and Scotland, showed a huge degree of regional variation.

Perhaps as can be expected, the survey found the most profitable businesses are concentrated in the south and south-east of England. Only

Stockton on Tees (-2.33)

Boston (-2.40)

Sleaford (-2.44)

Scunthorpe (-2.75)

Brentwood (-3.02)

Wells (-5.24)

Salisbury (-5.81)

Sittingbourne (-9.38)

Ramsgate (-18.89)

Folkestone (-25.13)

seven English locations in the north and 11 in the Midlands made it into the top 50.

Meanwhile Swansea, the most profitable location in Wales, only reached 22nd place in the overall list. Aberdeen, Britain's oil capital and the fifth most profitable location in Scotland, was placed 50 overall.

Not all was well in the south-east, however. Folkestone came in bottom position just behind Ramsgate and Sittingbourne, whose figures were all heavily in the red. This left Kent to be branded as Britain's least profitable county.

Worthing itself is not resting on its laurels. The Council is currently working on a "strategy for the 21st Century" to improve its shopping and retail facilities.

The locals are also keen to counter the view that their town is old and grey. Becky Gibbs, 20, a receptionist at the town's Burlington Hotel, said: "There are hundreds of young people here at weekends and they are all along the waterfront in the evenings. There are loads of bars and clubs which are heaving. Young people love it here."



The sleepy image of Worthing is a myth - the seaside town has the highest profit margins

Philip Brown

Savings rates INCREASED at Nationwide

FROM 1ST SEPTEMBER 1998

NEW RATES FOR PERSONAL INVESTORS

CashBuilder		FlexAccount		
Gross p.a.	Net p.a.	Gross p.a.	Net p.a.	
£50,000+	5.70%	4.56%	3.52%	
£25,000- £49,999	5.40%	4.32%	3.27%	
£10,000- £19,999	5.00%	4.00%	2.70%	
£5,000- £9,999	4.80%	3.84%	2.16%	
£1- £4,999	4.60%	3.68%	1.44%	
CapitalBuilder	1.50%	1.44%		
£50,000+	6.70%	5.36%		
£25,000- £49,999	6.40%	5.12%		
£10,000- £19,999	6.10%	4.88%		
£1- £9,999	5.90%	4.72%		
MonthlyIncome				
£50,000+	6.10%	5.12%		
£25,000- £49,999	6.10%	4.88%		
£10,000- £19,999	5.50%	4.46%		
£1- £9,999	5.14%	4.48%		
TESSA				
£1- £9,000	8.00%	6.40%		
TESSA 2				
£1- £9,000	8.00%	6.40%		
Bonus Saver*				
£1+	8.30%	6.56%		
The Smart Account				
£1+	8.00%	6.40%		
Smart 2 Save				
£1+	8.00%	6.40%		
Members' Reward Bond				
Annual	Gross p.a.	Net p.a.	Monthly	
£1- £10,000	8.55%	6.80%	8.35%	6.60%

BusinessInvestor		Treasury's Trust Account	
Gross p.a.	Net p.a.	Gross p.a.	Net p.a.
£50,000+	5.70%	4.56%	3.52%
£25,000- £49,999	5.40%	4.32%	3.27%
£10,000- £19,999	5.00%	4.00%	2.70%
£5,000- £9,999	4.80%	3.84%	2.16%
£1- £4,999	4.60%	3.68%	1.44%
CapitalBonus 180			
£25,000+	6.70%	5.36%	
£10,000- £24,999	6.40%	5.12%	
£1- £9,999	6.10%	4.88%	
CapitalBonus 90			
£25,000+	6.40%	5.12%	
£10,000- £24,999	6.10%	4.88%	
£1- £9,999	5.90%	4.72%	
CapitalBonus 90 Monthly/Half Yearly			
£25,000+	6.10%	4.88%	
£10,000- £24,999	5.80%	4.64%	
£1- £9,999	5.40%	4.18%	
BonusBuilder			
£25,000+	5.40%	4.32%	
£10,000- £24,999	5.00%	4.00%	
£5,000- £9,999	4.80%	3.84%	
£1- £4,999	4.60%	3.68%	
Subscription Share			
£1- £100,000 per month (or £4000 joint)	6.20%	5.60%	

*Bonus & Bonus 2 Monthly rates include a 10% gross p.a. bonus which is variable and is credited to your account annually if no withdrawals are made during the calendar year. Monthly rates include a 10% gross p.a. (2.60% net) bonus which is paid at the end of each month. The bonus is variable and is guaranteed at that rate until the end of 1999. TESSA, maximum age for regular 15 years. Order one TESSA per person. Term 5 years. Maximum investment limit is £3,000 in first year and £1,000 in subsequent years subject to the overall limit of £10,000. Minimum term limit is 12 months. TESSA 1 monthly option applies where a minimum of 12 months is required. Nationwide TESSA 1 monthly option applies in TESSA 2. A 2.2% lesser bonus will be paid on the smaller balance at the end of the TESSA 2 term. Interest is subject to tax at the appropriate rate for termination prior to maturity for rates other than death. TESSAs are subject to initial Reserve requirements which may vary. One TESSA 2 term account is allowed per address except Members' Reward Bond (Monthly), Bonus 60 (Monthly) and BonusBuilder, where a maximum of two accounts is permitted. The Smart Account, where interest is paid half-yearly.

**Interest is calculated daily and paid quarterly on the last day of March, June, September and December.

***Interest is calculated daily and paid quarterly on the last day of March, June, September and December.

****Interest is calculated daily and paid quarterly on the last day of March, June, September and December.

*****Interest is calculated daily and paid quarterly on the last day of March, June, September and December.

*****Interest is calculated daily and paid quarterly on the last day of March, June, September and December.

*****Interest is calculated daily and paid quarterly on the last day of March, June, September and December.

*****Interest is calculated daily and paid quarterly on the last day of March, June, September and December.

*****Interest is calculated daily and paid quarterly on the last day of March, June, September and December.

*****Interest is calculated daily and paid quarterly on the last day of March, June, September and December.

*****Interest is calculated daily and paid quarterly on the last day of March, June, September and December.

*****Interest is calculated daily and paid quarterly on the last day of March, June, September and December.

*****Interest is calculated daily and paid quarterly on the last day of March, June, September and December.

*****Interest is calculated daily and paid quarterly on the last day of March, June, September and December.

*****Interest is calculated daily and paid quarterly on the last day of March, June, September and December.

*****Interest is calculated daily and paid quarterly on the last day of March, June, September and December.

*****Interest is calculated daily and paid quarterly on the last day of March, June, September and December.

*****Interest is calculated daily and paid quarterly on the last day of March, June, September and December.

*****Interest is calculated daily and paid quarterly on the last day of March, June, September and December.

*****Interest is calculated daily and paid quarterly on the last day of March, June, September and December.

*****Interest is calculated daily and paid quarterly on the last day of March, June, September and December.

*****Interest is calculated daily and paid quarterly on the last day of March, June, September and December.

*****Interest is calculated daily and paid quarterly on the last day of March, June, September and December.

*****Interest is calculated daily and paid quarterly on the last day of March, June, September and December.

*****Interest is calculated daily and paid quarterly on the last day of March, June, September and December.

*****Interest is calculated daily and paid quarterly on the last day of March, June, September and December.

*****Interest is calculated daily and paid quarterly on the last day of March, June, September and December.

*****Interest is calculated daily and paid quarterly on the last day of March, June, September and December.

*****Interest is calculated daily and paid quarterly on the last day of March, June, September and December.

*****Interest is calculated daily and paid quarterly on the last day of March, June, September and December.

*****Interest is calculated daily and paid quarterly on the last day of March, June, September and December.

*****Interest is calculated daily and paid quarterly on the last day of March, June, September and December.

*****Interest is calculated daily and paid quarterly on the last day of March, June, September and December.

*****Interest is calculated daily and paid quarterly on the last day of March, June, September and December.

*****Interest is calculated daily and paid quarterly on the last day of March, June, September and December.

*****Interest is calculated daily and paid quarterly on the last day of March, June, September and December.

*****Interest is calculated daily and paid quarterly on the last day of March, June, September and December.

*****Interest is calculated daily and paid quarterly on the last day of March, June, September and December.

*****Interest is calculated daily and paid quarterly on the last day of March, June, September and December.

*****Interest is calculated daily and paid quarterly on the last day of March, June, September and December.

*****Interest is calculated daily and paid quarterly on the last day of March, June, September and December.

*****Interest is calculated daily and paid quarterly on the last day of March, June, September and December.

*****Interest is calculated daily and paid quarterly on the last day of March, June, September and December.

*****Interest is calculated daily and paid quarterly on the last day of March, June, September and December.

*****Interest is calculated daily and paid quarterly on the last day of March, June, September and December.

*****Interest is calculated daily and paid quarterly on the last day of March, June, September and December.

*****Interest is calculated daily and paid quarterly on the last day of March, June, September and December.

*****Interest is calculated daily and paid quarterly on the last day of March, June, September and December.

*****Interest is calculated daily and paid quarterly on the last day of March, June, September and December.

*****Interest is calculated daily and paid quarterly on the last day of March, June, September and December.

*****Interest is calculated daily and paid quarterly on the last day of March, June, September and December.

*****Interest is calculated daily and paid quarterly on the last day of March, June, September and December.

*****Interest is calculated daily and paid quarterly on the last day of March, June, September and December.

*****Interest is calculated daily and paid quarterly on the last day of March, June, September and December.

*****Interest is calculated daily and paid quarterly on the last day of March, June, September and December.

Makers withdraw measles vaccine

PARENTS concerned about inoculating their children with the controversial triple vaccine MMR will be forced to travel to Europe if they want a single measles vaccination, it was revealed yesterday.

The company that makes the single measles vaccine said it was withdrawing it from sale in Britain because it could not meet demand. From now on parents will only have the option of using MMR, which has been linked by one study, published in the medical journal *The Lancet*, to autism and bowel disease.

Last night Pasteur Merieux MSD, the Paris-based company that makes both the triple and single vaccines, said the single vaccine had been available in Britain on a named-patient basis only.

"That meant it was only available to a very small number of people," said Dr Veronique Maguin, the company's marketing director. "As demand grew we had to make an ethical decision about who the drug should be available to. It was a problem for the company because we could not satisfy everybody."

There has been a huge increase in demand for the single measles injection since the report last February in *The Lancet* on MMR, which also inoculates against mumps and rubella.

While a subsequent report published by the Medical Research Council found no evidence of the link, many parents remain suspicious of the triple vaccine and want to see more research carried out into its possible side-effects. Some believe that receiving all three vaccines at once has a negative effect on the immune system.

Ann Coote, a founder member of the pressure group Jabs - Justice, Awareness, and Basic Support - said she was as-

tounded the company was withdrawing the single vaccine.

"Most manufacturers faced with a demand for something would be rubbing their hands together," she said. "We get a lot of calls from parents who have lost faith in MMR and would prefer to have the option of a single vaccine. We would like to see MMR suspended and more research done."

"In the meantime single vaccines should be available. We are not against vaccines, we are against damage. Parents have a right to make a choice."

Mrs Coote said many parents were considering travelling to Europe to purchase single jabs.

She said her own daughter Rachael, stopped breathing after being injected with the triple vaccine at the age of 18 months. Now aged 11, Rachael still suffers from epileptic fits and has the mental age of a six-year-old. Her daughter's experience led Mrs Coote to set up Jabs.

The Department of Health accepts the vaccine is not risk-free. "All drugs have side-effects," said a spokeswoman.

"We believe that there is more risk from not having the vaccination."

She said the Government recommended having all three vaccinations at once, though she denied there had been any pressure placed on Pasteur Merieux MSD to withdraw the single vaccine.

"There is a risk to other children if a child is waiting to go back to the doctor for another vaccination. It is also more painful for the child," she said. "But the decision to withdraw the single vaccine is the company's alone."

Leading article,
Review, page 3



Lord Archer of Weston-super-Mare singing along with revellers yesterday at the annual Notting Hill Carnival in London

Paul Hackett/Reuters

Archer on song as Clark snubs carnival

ALAN CLARK used to be game for a laugh. His diaries were packed with gags about Tory colleagues such as Kenneth Clarke, whom he described as a "poggy life-insurance risk".

Even when the joke was on him - when it emerged that he had seduced a judge's wife and two daughters, for instance - he rode it out with brazen charm.

There is a risk to other children if a child is waiting to go back to the doctor for another vaccination. It is also more painful for the child," she said. "But the decision to withdraw the single vaccine is the company's alone."

Sending a message, to be published in the official programme of the 33rd annual carnival, would hardly have been a controversial move. The Prime Minister, Tony Blair, was among those who agreed to contribute a few words to the

Evening Standard newspaper over a parody of his diaries that

he claimed was indistinguishable from the original. This weekend he refused to send a goodwill message to the Notting Hill Carnival - although it takes place in his own west London constituency.

Sending a message, to be published in the official programme of the 33rd annual carnival, would hardly have been a controversial move. The Prime Minister, Tony Blair, was among those who agreed to contribute a few words to the

Could it be that Mr Clark, who lives in a 17th-century castle in Kent, regards himself as too grand to press the flesh at such a popular event? Or is it that, having won the safest Tory seat in Britain, he no longer feels the need to mix with the common people?

Stephanie Harwood, a carnival spokeswoman, said yesterday: "I telephoned Alan Clark's office and asked why he wouldn't support such a major event, the largest of its kind in Europe. They wouldn't give a reason."

"The committee feels a bit hurt, considering he's the local

MP. We've never seen him down here, or even in the area. He should get to know his local community, and what better opportunity than when everyone is out enjoying themselves on the streets?"

No one answered the telephone yesterday at Saltwood Castle, Mr Clark's home. But in Notting Hill, there were some crumbs of comfort in the shape of Lord Archer of Weston-super-Mare who made a visit as part of his campaign to be elected Mayor of London.

Lord Archer, casual in slacks and a cricketing sweater, toured the carnival offices and

inspected some of the mas (costume) bands. "He's just wandered off down Portobello Road to see Ebony, a steel band," said Ms Harwood. "He's got a tin whistle around his neck."

Police said yesterday afternoon that the carnival had been peaceful so far. On Sunday, there were only 12 arrests, mainly for theft and drug offences, compared with about 50 on the same day last year. An estimated two million people attended over the three days.

It was warm and sunny in much of Britain for the last day of the bank holiday weekend.

Many seaside resorts enjoyed hours of unbroken sunshine, basking in temperatures of up to 24°C (75°F).

London, the Channel Islands and the Midlands enjoyed the best of the weather according to the Meteorological Office. Only Northern Ireland, where it rained, and north-east England, which had grey skies, missed out.

The belated good weather did not stop Friday being the busiest day of the year at Heathrow Airport, with 199,000 people passing through. A total of nearly 800,000 travellers used the airport over the weekend.

Trinity keeps top spot in Cambridge league table

BY JUDITH JUDD
Education Correspondent

TRINITY, Cambridge University's biggest college and alma mater to Newton and Tennyson, has come top of this year's Tompkins table of examination results.

The table, which is compiled for *The Independent* by Peter Tompkins, a partner in Price WaterhouseCoopers, is used by high-flying sixth formers to help them choose a college and by dons to monitor their colleges' performance.

Trinity, which is top for the second year running, has a convincing lead over its nearest rival, Queens', which just pips Christ's into third place.

Christ's was second last year and the leading college in the previous year.

New Hall, one of the remaining all-women's colleges, is again bottom while Newnham, the other, slips slightly from eighteenth to twentieth.

Mr Tompkins said the table raised questions about whether young women were still attracted to all-female colleges.

Sidney Sussex shows the biggest fall, down from fourth to seventeenth.

The table measures the results by allocating five points for a first, three for an upper second, two for a lower second and

HOW THE COLLEGES RATE

1997 position in parenthesis

1 (1)	Trinity	66.35%
2 (3)	Queens'	64.52%
3 (2)	Christ's	64.50%
4 (8)	Gonville & Caius	64.12%
5 (7)	Emmanuel	63.73%
6 (11)	Clare	63.22%
7 (6)	Trinity Hall	62.64%
8 (10)	St John's	62.54%
9 (5)	Pembroke	62.49%
10 (14)	King's	61.61%
11 (12)	Dowling	61.22%
12 (13)	Fitzwilliam	60.83%
13 (15)	Churchill	60.26%
14 (9)	St Catharine's	59.73%
15 (16)	Selwyn	59.64%
16 (20)	Jesus	59.61%
17 (4)	Sidney Sussex	58.60%
18 (23)	Corpus Christi	58.22%
19 (21)	Robinson	58.01%
20 (18)	Newman	57.93%
21 (22)	Girton	57.35%
22 (17)	Magdalene	57.17%
23 (19)	Peterhouse	57.14%
24 (24)	New Hall	55.67%

teaching them in the right environment. A large proportion of teaching, particularly in the harder subjects, is done in groups.

But he said, the college was wary about measuring its performance only by tables, which gave merely the overall picture.

teaching them in the right environment. A large proportion of teaching, particularly in the harder subjects, is done in groups.

However, he thought that colleges, which were increasingly interested in marketing themselves, found it useful. "If things are going badly they may be saying they have to put more effort into attracting good pupils."

He said, the college was

wary about measuring its per-

formance only by tables, which

gave merely the overall picture.

VIAGRA CORNER

DISPATCHES FROM THE FRONTIERS OF MEDICINE

VIAGRA USERS just can't keep quiet about their new-found potency. Hundreds of happy and satisfied customers have joined a new Internet site to share their experiences and pass on user-friendly tips to novices.

The Viagra Talk site, which is moderated by Dr Brian McDonough to root out any messages of questionable taste, carries long lists of comments and advice about the drug and

its effects. According to several contributors it is, for instance, best taken on an empty stomach rather than after a meal. "I find that when taken after a large meal it takes two to three hours for the pill to work and it only lasts six to seven hours. When I take it on an empty stomach it lasts about 10 hours," says one user.

Another writes: "While my wife enjoys my new-found virility, she wonders if we can both

keep up the pace of our youth."

One man found that he could save money by cutting the tablet in half. "The cost for 25, 50 and 100mg tablets is the same per tablet for all three. Why pay \$9 for a 50mg tablet when it costs only half that amount. A third of a tablet works great for me."

Then of course, there is the odd failure. "Tried 50mg the first time and no luck. Tried 100mg the second and again no

luck. It's been two weeks now..."

Viagra Talk is at <http://www.bigr.com/>

ROGER DORSON

REVIEWER

JAY COOK

UNBELIEVABLE



The Satellite Pro 490CDT is now unbelievably good value. With its high performance Pentium II processor and built-in CD-ROM, microphone and speakers, it is now available for £1795 Ex. VAT at Gultronics showrooms.

- 233MHz Pentium II
- Swappable 20-speed CD-ROM drive
- 3.8GB HDD • 32MB EDO RAM
- High resolution 12.1" TFT colour screen
- Plus
- Free carry case
- Free EXTRA 32MB RAM!

GULTRONICS
223 Tottenham Court Road, London W1
217-218 Tottenham Court Road, London W1
334-336 Edgware Road, London NW2

To find out more call us now on
0171 436 3131
0171 323 4612
Fax 0171 636 1075



YEAR
2000
COMPLIANT

Intel, The Intel Inside Logo and Pentium® are registered trademarks and MMX™ is a trademark of Intel Corporation. All prices quoted are subject to change without notice or obligation. The prices quoted are for the machine shown in the advertisement. Prices do not include VAT, delivery, insurance or any other charges. Prices are correct at time of going to print. All prices and offers are subject to availability. Please note that the machine shown in the advertisement includes a 32MB RAM memory module. A small additional charge may apply.

Dobson offers 'family friendly' shifts to soothe angry nurses

BY COLIN BROWN
Chief Political Correspondent

HOSPITALS ARE to be told to make themselves more "family friendly" for nurses in a push by Frank Dobson to head off anger over the staging of their pay award.

Speaking to *The Independent*, the Health Secretary said he would be issuing "more trenchant advice" to NHS managers about the need for better treatment of nurses with more flexible working hours to fit their lifestyles.

Mr Dobson has also written to all hospitals to ensure that they can avoid a winter crisis, which could wreck his promise to reduce waiting lists.

He has told NHS staff to ensure that local arrangements can cope with emergency pressures so that waiting list targets are achieved. His letter follows a study of NHS emergency services, showing that pressure on emergency units last winter increased in spite of the mild weather, and a harsh winter this time could see waiting lists start rising again.

Christopher Bunch, chairman of the emergency services action committee, which carried out the review, said: "Staff have coped magnificently under increasing pressure but at some cost. Stress levels are high throughout and there are staff shortages and recruitment difficulties in several areas."

Mr Dobson's determination to help nurses work more flexible hours follows a personal experience. "I can remember some years ago that three-quarters of the nurses at University College Hospital were agency nurses. When I enquired, the explanation was that the agency nurses can work what hours they like, but the ones on the NHS payroll had to work standard hours. It suited the agency nurses but it struck me that if you can order your rosters for agency nurses, you can organise them for your NHS staff."

Offering nurses more flexible working hours could allow more to come back into the pro-



Frank Dobson, the Health Secretary, hopes that more flexible working hours for nurses will help cut hospital waiting lists and keep him in a job

Musical therapy calms patients

BY ROGER DOBSON

ANESTHETISTS WHO play music to their patients during operations have discovered that the sound substantially reduces the amounts of sedatives and pain-killers needed.

When patients listened to their own choice of music through headphones, the use of pain-killing analgesics was almost halved, and the level of sedative also dropped.

All the patients were operated on under local or regional anaesthetic and were therefore awake during the operation.

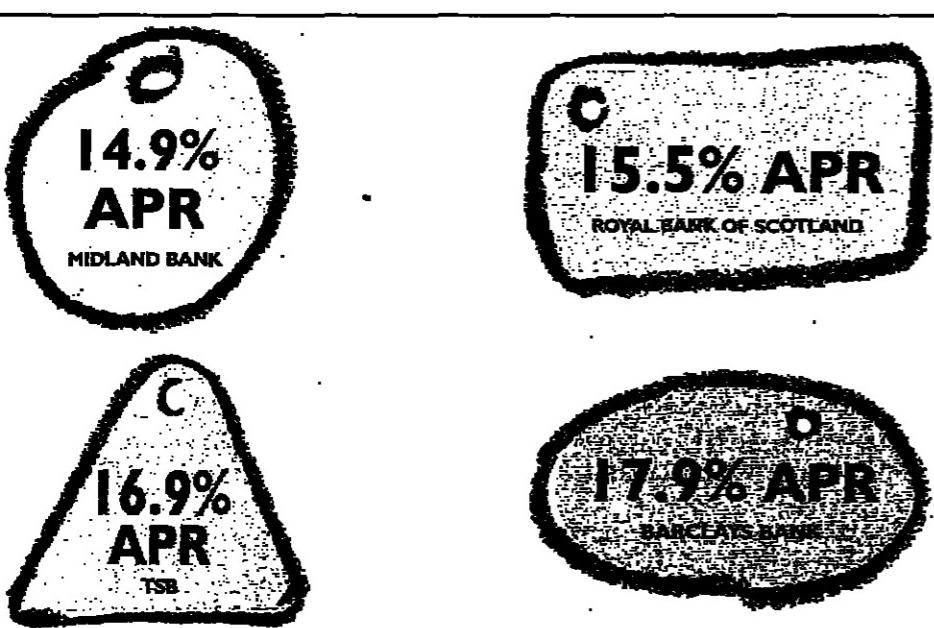
The huge increase in hospital day surgery in Britain means that more such operations are being carried out. One of the problems is that conscious patients can become overanxious as the surgeon operates and discuss surgical techniques and disease.

"When these patients undergo regional or local [anaesthetic] we can block the pain stimulus but we are still left with anxiety associated with being in the operating theatre," says Dr Zeev Kain, professor of anaesthesiology at Yale University. "Music is widely used to help people relax and divert attention from unpleasant things, so we set out to show that music chosen by a patient helps provide a familiar environment and will distract their attention."

In the research, reported in the current issue of the medical journal *Anesthesiology*, patients were asked to bring with them a CD of their favourite music to enjoy. The amount of drugs they needed during the operation was then compared with another group of patients who had no music.

Doctors found a 44 per cent reduction in requirement for an analgesic and a five-fold drop in demand for sedatives.

Just how the music works in reducing the perception of pain is not clear, but one theory is that the stimulus from the music somehow competes for the brain's attention with the pain signals and, for some of the time, wins.



Source: MoneySuperMarket.com

Better than a bank



Call 0800 363 409

Quoting reference IN04

Lines are open Monday to Friday between 8.00am and 8.30pm and Saturday between 8.00am and 5.30pm.

<http://www.marks-and-spencer.co.uk/financial services>

MARKS & SPENCER
FINANCIAL SERVICES

Personal Loans

Our Personal Loan interest rates are still at their lowest ever, and better than most high street banks.

So, if you were thinking of seeing your bank manager for a personal loan, why not call us first.

■ You may apply to borrow up to £10,000, to spend exactly as you wish.

■ We'll usually give you a decision over the phone in around 10 minutes.

■ The interest rates are fixed for the duration of your loan.

■ You may spread the repayments over any period up to 84 months.

■ Our lowest ever Personal Loan rates start from 12.9% APR for a loan of £10,000 including a 1% APR discount when you take out Personal Loan Protection.

Written quotations available on request from Marks & Spencer Financial Services Limited, Kings Meadow, Cheshire CH9 9FB.
All examples based on a £5,000 personal loan including Personal Loan Protection repaid over 36 months. Marks & Spencer Financial Services: £175.00 per month, total repayable £6,914.88.
Midland Bank: £193.37 per month, total repayable £6,586.32. Royal Bank of Scotland: £195.62 per month, total repayable £7,043.22. TSB: £203.16 per month, total repayable £7,313.76.
Barclays Bank: £206.84 per month, total repayable £7,446.24. The cost of insurance products between lenders may vary. These are the lowest rates offered by M&SFS, with the exception of Premier Loan.
Marks & Spencer Financial Services Personal Loan Protection is underwritten by Cornwall Insurance plc, Registered Office: Michael House, Baker Street, London W1A 1DN.
Registered in England No. 1772385. A subsidiary of Marks and Spencer plc.

**FLAT RATE CALLS APPLY
24 HOURS A DAY, 7 DAYS A WEEK!**

One.Tel offers low cost international calls from your home or business phone, anytime of the day or night. We will send a bill to your registered address, no pre-payment required. Call us now to register on 0800 092 1878 between 8am - 8pm, Monday to Friday. Once you are registered simply dial 1878 in front of the international number you would like to call. It couldn't be easier.

LOW INTERNATIONAL RATES

Destination	FLAT RATE (per min)
Ireland	10p
France	12p
Italy	17p
Netherlands	12p
Belgium	12p
Canada	9p
Switzerland	15p
South Africa	35p
Jamaica	43p
Hong Kong	19p
Israel	20p
New Zealand	15p
Sweden	10p

HOW TO DIAL 1878 'N'SAVE
DIAL 1878 - 00 - COUNTRY CODE - AREA CODE - LOCAL NUMBER

One.Tel
FAR AND AWAY CHEAPER CALLS

No Pre-payment
No switching phone companies
No minimum mthly charges
PHONE 0800 092 1878

Not applicable to calls made to or from Mobile phones. All rates are correct at time of publication and can change at any time.

Opinion

Edinburgh TV Festival: Former au pair describes how people behaving like paparazzi have robbed her of privacy



In court: Louise Woodward with the two hairstyles that, as seen on television, led the public to condemn her

Woodward speaks out against TV trials

BY PAUL McCANN
Media Editor

LOUISE WOODWARD spoke out against the use of television cameras in courtrooms yesterday, despite the part they played in starting the campaign that fought for her early release from jail.

The British au pair complained that the televising of her trial last year had given her unwanted celebrity and had led to the trivialisation of her trial for the murder of baby Matthew Eappen.

Speaking at the Edinburgh Television Festival, Ms Woodward said: "People are not able to distinguish between notoriety and celebrity. I never wanted to be in this position. I don't want to be a minor celebrity - I am not famous for anything good and people ask me to sign baseball caps."

"I am trying to be a normal 20-year-old and people won't let me do that."

The former au pair complained that every day she gets questions from the media about where she is going to universi-

ty, when she is getting married or if she plans to have children.

"When I was on holiday, paparazzi-style photographs of me on the beach were taken by members of the public and sold to the press."

She added: "I have only ever signed one autograph because the woman wouldn't let me out of the restaurant and I was embarrassed. When I can, I say no. I just hope my face will fade in people's memories".

She said that her notoriety all stemmed from the televising of her trial: "I was never asked if I wanted cameras in the courtroom ... I would have said no. It is hard enough to stand handcuffed in the dock without a camera trying to get a clear shot of my hands".

She said because of the cameras her behaviour in the courtroom, rather than the evidence, became the focus of news reports. Her giggle was given

great significance and because she couldn't get a haircut or use make-up in prison she was dubbed the "Nanny from Hell".

When she changed her hairstyle, she said she was accused of trying to look "sweet and innocent".

But she did not deny that the cameras may have contributed

to her release after her manslaughter conviction, when she was given a sentence already covered by the time she had served.

"I couldn't say what influenced the judge," she said. "I hope he based his decision on law, not on public opinion. Do

we really want the public to be policing the courts? Should we just replace 12 people as a jury with an opinion poll on [the television chat show] with Richard and Judy?"

She added: "Television turns a courtroom into a soap opera, turns it into entertainment, but

a courtroom is a serious place dealing with people's lives."

Ms Woodward was accompanied at the session by her lawyer Barry Scheck, who argued that the televising of her trial had made things more difficult for the defence lawyers.

He claimed that it reduced

the case to a debate about childcare, and the implication was that Louise Woodward had been given too much responsibility and had snapped under the pressure. He said the trial jury was not sequestered, and he assumed they had been watching the television coverage.

BY PAUL McCANN

IT IS PLANNING to make another 30 documentary soap operas this year, it was revealed yesterday as a session at the Edinburgh Television Festival cast light on how more and more ordinary people are having their lives changed by television celebrity.

A leading documentary soap maker admitted that directors "cast" their fly-on-the-wall programmes with people who have star quality.

The seminar was attended by Jeremy Spake, the Aeroflot attendant made famous by the BBC's *Airport* series, and *Trude Mostue of the Vets In Practice* series. Delegates heard how these stars of real-life television had gone on to pursue new careers after their brush with fame.

The seminar was also supposed to have heard from Emma Bundy, a counter girl from the series *Lakeisers*, but she could not attend because she is currently recording a single for EMI Records.

Mr Spake, who now appears in two series of *Airport* still works for Aeroflot, but he has become such a hit in the show that the BBC commissioned him to write a book.

Joe Hoolihan, maker of *Airline*, the best-watched series so far, said that the programmes are based more on character than on the situations film crews find: "It is commonly accepted that we use the phrase 'casting'. We are looking for people who have a way of expressing themselves well and explaining things on camera."

The session was attended by Keith Cooper, the former head of press at the Royal Opera House, made famous for his treatment of staff in *The House*.

He left his job earlier this year and blames the programme: "I was known as Vlad the Impaler after the series. The cameras made me look like a villain and to seem without credibility and character. That has remained with me both personally and professionally."

Louise Woodward and her lawyer, Barry Scheck, in Edinburgh yesterday where she said she did not enjoy being a 'celebrity' Jon Savage

Schizophrenia gene close to discovery, say scientists

BY STEVE CONNOR
Science Editor

SCIENTISTS ARE close to discovering a gene that significantly increases the risk of a person developing schizophrenia, one of the most common and debilitating mental illnesses.

The results of a 15-year study, involving more than a hundred families and a thousand subjects, has provided researchers with the first definitive evidence that a predisposition to schizophrenia resides on a region of human chromosome 13.

Dr Ann Pulver, an epidemiologist at Johns Hopkins University in Baltimore, said: "Finding the actual gene for schizophrenia susceptibility will be like finding a particular house in a large city."

"But we've found the city. It's a first step, and an exceedingly important one."

The study, published in this month's issue of the journal *Nature Genetics*, is the first to provide a genetic "address" for a schizophrenia gene with an internationally accepted degree of statistical reliability.

It has been known for many years that schizophrenia tends to run in families.

Studies of identical twins have shown that if one twin develops the illness, the other has a 45 per cent chance of also becoming a sufferer, which is far higher than the 1 per cent rate for the general population.

"It's not the case that 'you have the gene, you have the disease'. The genetic effect is one of susceptibility to schizophrenia," Dr Pulver said. It is likely that other genes, as well

as the influence of the environment or upbringing, also influence the risk of becoming ill, she said.

The scientists analysed the blood samples of 54 schizophrenia patients and samples from members of their families.

By scanning the DNA of the families, the scientists identified a region of chromosome 13 as being implicated in the disease, which was confirmed by a second study of 51 other families with a history of the illness.

Other studies have revealed weak links between schizophrenia and other human chromosomes but this study is the strongest association yet, with the probability of the connection being due to chance alone put at about 2 in 100,000, Dr Pulver said. Dr Karen Schwartz,

a member of the research team, said that if the gene on chromosome 13 is found it could revolutionise the understanding of schizophrenia because scientists should be able to understand the precise nature of any chemical imbalance in the brain of patients.

"It will help us to get a more fundamental understanding of the illness. Right now, we just don't understand schizophrenia," she said.

Schizophrenia is a serious problem in Britain, with the illness affecting 1 per cent of the population.

If left untreated, people with schizophrenia experience delusions, hallucinations, incoherent speech and highly disorganized behaviour, which prevents sufferers holding down jobs or looking after themselves.

Rapist targeting rail travellers

BY JASON BENNETT
Crime Correspondent

A RAPIST has been targeting women at railway stations as they return from work, police revealed yesterday.

The police have so far linked two sexual assaults, but they are expected to appeal to other victims to come forward at a press conference later today.

The two attacks - one in London, the other in Essex - happened six years apart, but an inquiry, known as Operation Catchment, has established "significant similarities" which indicate the same man is responsible, police said.

In the most recent assault in March, a 36-year-old woman on her way home from work was attacked and raped near Bermondsey railway station in south-east London. In the other assault at Brentwood, Essex, in February 1992, a 25-year-old

Rembrandt 'fake' probably genuine

BY CHRIS PARKIN

A PAINTING branded as bogus and consigned to the basement of Ireland's National Art Gallery more than 25 years ago is set to be proved a genuine Rembrandt after all.

The work, *Head of an Old Man*, has been owned by the Dublin gallery since 1871.

It was thought to be a Rembrandt until Dutch experts declared it was a 19th-century fake with a false signature.

That judgement was queried more recently by Andrew O'Connor, the gallery's senior conservator. And he has now established the painting dates back to about 1650, and is consistent with Rembrandt's style.

Mr O'Connor said: "I always liked the work and my faith in it wavered in the face of all the experts. But I always felt it deserved re-assessment, and now

the last old master confirmed at the gallery, Caravaggio's *The Taking of Christ*, was valued at £26 million.

JAY COOK



30 more real life soaps in pipeline

BY PAUL McCANN

IT IS PLANNING to make another 30 documentary soap operas this year, it was revealed yesterday as a session at the Edinburgh Television Festival cast light on how more and more ordinary people are having their lives changed by television celebrity.

A leading documentary soap maker admitted that directors "cast" their fly-on-the-wall programmes with people who have star quality.

The seminar was attended by Jeremy Spake, the Aeroflot attendant made famous by the BBC's *Airport* series, and *Trude Mostue of the Vets In Practice* series. Delegates heard how these stars of real-life television had gone on to pursue new careers after their brush with fame.

The seminar was also supposed to have heard from Emma Bundy, a counter girl from the series *Lakeisers*, but she could not attend because she is currently recording a single for EMI Records.

Mr Spake, who now appears in two series of *Airport* still works for Aeroflot, but he has become such a hit in the show that the BBC commissioned him to write a book.

Joe Hoolihan, maker of *Airline*, the best-watched series so far, said that the programmes are based more on character than on the situations film crews find: "It is commonly accepted that we use the phrase 'casting'. We are looking for people who have a way of expressing themselves well and explaining things on camera."

The session was attended by Keith Cooper, the former head of press at the Royal Opera House, made famous for his treatment of staff in *The House*.

He left his job earlier this year and blames the programme: "I was known as Vlad the Impaler after the series. The cameras made me look like a villain and to seem without credibility and character. That has remained with me both personally and professionally."

LEGAL & GENERAL FAMILY PROTECTION PLAN

life assurance?

Here's a low-cost alternative.

£53,200 of life cover for just 20p a day

Introducing low-cost term assurance from Legal & General.

Wouldn't it make sense to pay for life assurance only when you really need it? When your children are growing up, for example. Now you can, with the Legal & General Family Protection Plan.

For just 20p a day (subject to individual details), the lump sum is paid should you die during the term of the policy. For that premium,

a non-smoking man aged 30 could get £53,200 of cover for 15 years.

But the real advantage is you choose the term of the policy and the amount of cover you require or the monthly contribution that suits you.

So if you'd prefer life assurance that isn't a lifetime commitment, call 0500 33 66 66 or send for your personal, no-obligation quote today.

Equivalent to £6 per month.

free £10 Interflora voucher

WHEN YOU APPROVE AND ACCEPT ANNUITY TERM INSURANCE

0500 33 66 66

8am - 8pm weekdays, 9am - 5pm weekends

MINIMUM PREMIUM OF £5.00 PER MONTH. QUOTATIONS TO FOLLOW. NOT ALL PRODUCTS OR SERVICES OFFERED BY LEGAL & GENERAL GROUP COMPANIES WILL BE ELIGIBLE FOR THIS OFFER. PLEASE SEE DOCUMENTATION FOR DETAILS. LIFE POLICIES ARE SUBJECT TO THE CONDITIONS OF THE PERSONAL INVESTMENT AUTHORITY AND LISA FOR THE PURPOSES OF RECOMMENDATION, ADVISING ON AND SELLING LIFE ASSURANCE AND INVESTMENT PRODUCTS. LEGAL & GENERAL'S NAME, LEGAL & GENERAL DIRECT LIMITED, REGISTERED IN ENGLAND NO. 2702080, REGISTERED OFFICE TEMPLE COURT, 11 QUEEN VICTORIA STREET, LONDON EC4N 4TP.

Please send me, without obligation, an information pack on The Legal & General Family Protection Plan.

Name _____

Forename(s) _____

Address _____

Postcode _____ Date of Birth _____

Tel no home _____ Tel no. work _____

Post to Legal & General, FREEPOST (SWFC0467), Cardiff CF1 1YW (no stamp required)

Further information on other Legal & General products available on our website www.lag.co.uk

Call now for an instant quote

For your protection, calls are usually recorded and randomly monitored.

I do not wish to receive information on other Legal & General products.

Legal & General
trust us to deliver

HOW
MUCH
BEEF
GOES
INTO
BEEF
AND
ONION
PIES?

A little?
A lot?
None?

We're committed
to no-nonsense
honest labelling
so you know
exactly what
you're buying.

To find the answer,
ring freephone
0800 317 827
or visit www.co-op.co.uk



It's a family thing

Duma ignores warning of chaos

RUSSIA'S NIGHTMARE deepened last night as parliament rejected Boris Yeltsin's nominee for prime minister - Viktor Chernomyrdin - adding political limbo to economic meltdown. The country is without a government little more than a week after the President threw out the last one, scapegoats for a collapsing rouble and a nation's inability to pay its debts.

The State Duma overwhelmingly rejected Mr Chernomyrdin's candidacy by 253 to 94 votes - 132 short of what he needed. In doing so, parlia-

BY PHIL REEVES
in Moscow

ment made clear that it associates the wealthy former gas baron and prime minister from 1992 to March this year with a period of government marred by corruption, a bungled privatisation programme, deepening poverty, the Chechen war and the growth of a manipulative oligarchic class.

The Kremlin did its best to frighten them into line. "If the chaos lasts for another couple of weeks, then there will be ne-

ther Communists, nor any of us left ... I have in mind a popular uprising," said Alexander Kotenkov, Mr Yeltsin's parliamentary representative.

So did Mr Chernomyrdin himself. Russia was on the verge of a political and economic breakdown, he warned, in a speech to the chamber. Time was running out. Fault lay with the "childish" government of his 36-year-old predecessor, Sergei Kiriyenko; he, Viktor Chernomyrdin, would sort out wage and pension arrears, the taxes and the crumbling banks.

His defeat came after the unravelling of a power-sharing deal struck after intense weekend talks between the Kremlin, the parliamentary leadership, and Mr Chernomyrdin, which would - historically - have transferred some of Mr Yeltsin's powers to the legislature.

There will now be another round of haggling led by the Communists, who have 137 of the 226 votes that the prime minister needs to be confirmed. Yesterday, a senior hardline party official said it wanted 10 ministers in the cabinet, and Mr

Yeltsin's resignation - an outcome that would appeal the West, and its creditors in the International Monetary Fund, who have been warning that Moscow's \$23bn (£14bn) rescue package will be in jeopardy if it tries to introduce regressive, Soviet-era economic remedies.

The leader of the Yabloko liberal faction, Grigory Yavlinsky, described the situation as "very very unstable". "Power is paralysed. The government cannot do anything. This is the worst case that anyone can imagine."

Mr Chernomyrdin's rejec-

tion was so decisive that it may cause the Kremlin to contemplate choosing another candidate. The Communists have suggested several, including the mayor of Moscow, Yuri Luzhkov, and the moderate Duma speaker, Gennady Seleznyov. Last night, Mr Yeltsin's aides made clear the President is standing by his man, and will nominate him again.

If Mr Chernomyrdin is rejected twice more by the Duma, the President must dissolve parliament and call an early election. An end-game is underway. The

question is whether Mr Yeltsin, who has shelled a previous legislature in order to get his way, will make more concessions to get a new government in place. Or will he hold out, gambling on the Duma's reluctance to bring about its own dissolution?

Beneath everything lurks the fear that Mr Yeltsin will impose a state of emergency, closing the Duma indefinitely. He seems too isolated to take that risky path. But nothing here is impossible.

Anne McElvoy
Review, page 5

Stalin's heirs have Kremlin at their mercy

BY PHIL REEVES

the resignation of Mr Yeltsin once a government is formed.

Although isolated and weak, a cornered Mr Yeltsin is capable of dissolving parliament. This would also happen automatically if the Duma throws out Mr Chernomyrdin's nomination three times.

The crisis threatens to destroy a balancing act that Mr Zyuganov, 52, has been engaged in since he took over the party leadership in 1993, turning the ruins of the Communist Party of the Soviet Union into the largest political entity in Russia with 500,000 members.

At his back stands an assorted army of liberal democrats, left-wing nationalists, Slavophile patriots, Marxist-Leninist revivalists, Stalinists, and more. Splits abound over ideology, and between the Communist elite in the Duma, the party apparatus, the regional leaders and the rank and file.

Although it has a rump of elderly and rural support (average age, 50) its base has been widening. Only a fifth are blue-collar workers: more than half of its support is estimated to be in the engineering, technical, culture, science, education, medicine and the military.

Mr Zyuganov, podgy in appearance and plodding in manner, glides back and forth across the ideological spectrum. He is the author of *A Word to the People*, the manifesto of the men behind the failed hardline coup against Mikhail Gorbachev in 1991. Like many in the Communist camp, he remains silent about Stalin's crimes but praises the dictator's victory over Hitler and industrial achievements.

Yesterday, the Communists were demanding 10 ministries (including economics and the powerful interior ministry, which controls the police), and

the pressure from the radical wings, both right and left, of his so-called National Patriotic Union is reaching a new pitch. If he fails to respond, his position as leader - already suspect - would become more precarious.

Yesterday, the Communists were demanding 10 ministries (including economics and the powerful interior ministry, which controls the police), and



An elderly Russian woman Communist holds a portrait of Josef Stalin as she takes part in a march through Moscow alongside a military parade commemorating triumphs of the Armed Forces

How Ivan the Typical survives

STREET LIFE SAMOTECHNY LANE



A miner protests in Red Square

RUSSIANS WHO have been elbowing each other in queues to buy dollars or consumer durables are the second-class passengers on the ship that has hit the economic iceberg. First-class ticket holders long ago monopolised the lifeboats and sailed away.

But down in the hold are millions more, so lowly paid they have never saved a kopeck or worse, survived for months without wages at all. Only the Siberian miners have mutinied. The rest have shown a calm that is really the resignation of the doomed. It is a miracle they are still alive. How have they kept their heads above water?

In the week that the Kremlin welcomed back Viktor Chernomyrdin, a fat cat thanks to his links with the gas monopoly Gazprom, I visited another man who has also made his career in the gas industry. But Ivan Andreyev is a very thin cat indeed.

Mr Andreyev works at a gas station in Voskresensk, in Moscow region. The station

is controlled by the Ministry of Fuel and Energy rather than Gazprom, sells propane to drivers who economise by running their cars on gas, as well as canisters to householders who cannot get mains gas.

The stream of customers at the station testifies to the demand for this service. Nevertheless, Mr Andreyev last received a wage packet in October 1996. If he is ever paid, his money will have lost nearly half its value because of the trouble slide. How does he get by? "There are many inexplicable things that are only possible in Russia because this is the 'strana chudes' (Wonderland)," he said.

Mr Andreyev, who has just turned 60, should be retired but goes on working because he and his wife, Valentina, cannot make ends meet on their joint state pension of 600 rubles (now worth about \$50). In any case, they receive their pensions irregularly and have been kept waiting for the money again this summer. Some old people in their po-

lating us, I thought it was a temporary problem and accepted it. But things just got worse.

Luckily he and his wife do have a roof of their own over their heads. Russians in the greatest difficulty these days are those on low incomes who are also obliged to rent their accommodation. But Mr Andreyev was able to buy a small house when he moved south from Norilsk in the Arctic, where he spent most of his working life in a nickel plant. "I don't have to pay rent, just the utility bills. I'm up to date with my gas bills," he said proudly.

The house has a garden in which he and his family grow fruit and vegetables. Like survivors of a nuclear war, they go into the forests to pick berries and mushrooms. The only food items they have to buy are bread, milk, tea and salt. "That's our salvation. If we had to shop for food, I do not know what we would do."

The same techniques that helped Russians survive in Soviet times, when the shops had

nothing to sell, still apply now when it is pockets that are empty. As well as gardening, which is a rural option, or collecting empty bottles and claiming the money back, a method of the urban poor: work "nalevo" (on the side) is crucial.

"See that tanker over there?" said Mr Andreyev. "We sell gas from that directly to the customer and make a few roubles for ourselves. Some of the younger lads also fix cars here in working hours. You can't blame them. They've got to live."

Mr Andreyev, who was never a Communist, believed briefly in the possibility of democracy in Russia but has now lost hope. He sees no difference in the corrupt politicians who come and go, and although he respects the miners, sees no point in protesting as they have done, because nobody in power listens. He takes joy in things that are beyond politics. "I've got my family, two fine grandsons, thank God. They are my reason for living."

HELEN WOMACK

DAVID AARONOVITCH

'At one and the same time the Scots resented the South and craved its bounty and opportunities. They still do'

— THE TUESDAY REVIEW, PAGE 3 →

Move your mortgage without changing your neighbours.

- No need to move house.
- Our rate is 8.5% APR.
- No arrangement fee.
- No valuation fee.
- No early redemption fee.
- Daily interest calculation.

Call Direct Line now.

0181 649 9099

0161 831 9099

0141 221 9099

LONDON MANCHESTER GLASGOW

CALL ANYTIME 8am to 8pm Monday to Friday and

9am to 5pm Saturday.

www.directline.co.uk/mortgages

Please quote ref. NIND16



Direct Line Financial Services, Limited, 250 St Vincent Street, Glasgow, G2 5NH. Subject to status. Available in England, Scotland and Wales. Solely required. Standard terms and conditions apply. Direct Line and Direct Line logo are trademarks of Direct Line Insurance plc, used with its permission. YOUR HOME IS AT RISK IF YOU DO NOT KEEP UP REPAYMENTS ON A MORTGAGE OR OTHER LOAN SECURED ON IT.

Clinton
off
to the
known

the PC
the yo

RTE

Flooding awakens Chinese protest

By TERESA POOLE

PEKING'S ENVIRONMENTAL awakening may seem rather late in the day as a Yangtze basin farmer whose home has yet again been washed away by annual floods. But China's government is finally admitting that decades of ecological mismanagement has played a large part in the annual flood disasters. In the first indication that some good may come from this summer's inundation, a complete logging ban will go into effect today in Sichuan province in the upper reaches of the Yangtze, one of the main contributory factors to flooding.

All Sichuan's timber markets are supposed to close from today and about 45,000 loggers will lose their jobs, in theory being redeployed to plant new saplings. In fact, many of them have not had much work to do recently. According to Sichuan officials, half the province's main timber companies had already run out of trees to cut down by the end of last year. Tree cover in the upper reaches of the Yangtze was once as high as 85 per cent, but by 1986 had fallen to 10 per cent. In the 53 counties in the middle of Sichuan where several Yangtze tributaries run, the cover has mostly been reduced to below 3 per cent, according to figures published in China.

Deforestation has a direct impact on flooding because, devoid of trees to soak up the water, loose soil is washed away by rainwater into rivers and reservoirs. These become clogged, and their water storage capacity reduced, while the level of the riverbed itself gradually rises. The situation is exacerbated by the draining of lakes, and encroachment on lakes in the middle reaches of the Yangtze to create agricultural land. In cen-

tral Hubei province, the number of lakes fell from 1,066 in the 1950s to 325 today, according to Chinese figures. This removes nature's ability to absorb flood waters.

Yet there are more hopeful signs that this year's floods have united the environmentally concerned from across the political spectrum. The environment is one issue on which China's fledgling non-government organisations, such as Friends of Nature, have managed to mobilise, and their lobbying power is probably strengthened by the floods.

A meeting at the end of last month by the Standing Committee of the National People's Congress heard forthright criticism of environmental neglect. A committee member, Luo Dian, said the floods "were caused by widespread deforestation, resulting in serious soil erosion, and inadequate water conservancy projects". Yao Zhengyan, a former vice-minister for water resources, warned of more serious floods in the future and called on the central government to step up efforts to protect the environment. Such criticism is unusual in China.

China's dissident community is also trying to make its voice heard on the environment. The largest dissident petition since the pro-democracy movement of 1989, with 309 signatures from 19 provinces, has emerged. "For so many years, by blindly following the concept that 'man can conquer nature', we have built up vast, evil debts to the Yangtze River," said the petition. "We are now swallowing the bitter fruit of nature's revenge."



Angolan soldiers escorting a prisoner at Matadi airport. Matadi has been retaken by Congolese forces with Angolan help

Algiers market bomb carnage

By ZOHRA BENSEMPA
in Algiers

AT LEAST 10 people were killed in Algiers yesterday when a home-made bomb exploded at an open-air market in the city centre.

A doctor and relief worker at the scene said the number of casualties was climbing. "So far we have counted 19 dead and 47 injured. But many of the wounded are in critical condition and some might not survive," the doctor said.

A worker at a television repair shop at the market said: "One of the vendors discovered the bomb in a bag, he tried to move it away with his feet, but it exploded. Most of the dead are vendors, like the poor man, or passers-by."

There was no immediate word on who might be responsible for the attack, but it follows a series of blasts blamed by the authorities on Muslim rebels in which dozens have been killed. The Arabic daily *El Khabar* said one person was killed and two hurt when a bomb exploded on Sunday in Sidi Ali Shrif, 300 miles west of Algiers. The newspaper also reported that security forces shot dead two Islamists in Constantine, 220 miles east of the capital.

On Saturday, police in Hachad hamlet, about 40 miles south-west of Algiers, defused two bombs near where mourners had been gathering for the funeral of five civilians killed by presumed Muslim rebels a day earlier. Security sources said Islamist rebels cut the throats of 10 people in nearby Ain Defla on Saturday in a new wave of violence to hit the province.

On 20 August, at least 14 people were killed and 46 wounded by a bomb at an open-air market in a neighbouring village, and a week earlier seven people, including six children were killed in a bomb attack on a passenger train.

Western estimates put the death toll at 65,000 from continuing violence since the government cancelled an election in 1992, which the Islamists were poised to win.

Congo rebels prepare for long haul in war to topple Kabila

FROM THE capital, Kinshasa, government victory may seem at hand. But from rebel-held areas, insurgents plotting their next move say time is on their side.

"The war is going on," said Ernest Wamba dia Wamba, a rebel leader, yesterday.

Mr Wamba insisted the government forces would have been routed if it were not for the Angolans and Zimbabweans sent in to fight alongside those of President Laurent Kabila.

"But they cannot stay long. And we're going to continue fighting no matter what," he said.

On Sunday, the rebels suffered a major defeat in the month-old campaign to topple

BY HRVOJE HRANJSKI

Mr Kabila when they pulled out of Matadi, 350 kilometres southwest of Kinshasa - the only remaining air base in western Congo under their control.

Mr Wamba said the rebel force in western Congo - believed to number between 6,000 and 9,000 troops - had to withdraw to avoid being cut in half by Angolan troops.

The result will be a change in tactics: the rebels will split into smaller, mobile groups ready to strike Kinshasa at times, infiltrate the city and lie low until the departure of Mr Kabila's allies, he said.

"It's a matter of what kind of

war," said the former Harvard political economy lecturer. "It is my understanding that, now, we are conducting the guerrilla-type war.

"Nobody can rule effectively only with foreign support," he said. "Zimbabwe cannot stay for a long time. Angola may not stay for longer either. They have too many fronts open against them: they have to be in Congo-Brazzaville, they have to deal with (separatists) in Cabinda, they have to deal with Congo-Kinshasa, and they are only 11 million people."

Since the rebels - a coalition of ethnic Tutsis, exiled politicians and disenchanted members of Mr Kabila's army - took up arms, they have seized eastern Congo and closed in on Kinshasa from the Atlantic.

But the intervention of Angola and Zimbabwe appeared to have saved Mr Kabila - at least for now. The result could be a long and exhausting war.

"We are trying to tell our people that this may not be a few weeks' affair. It could be months, it could be years. The more people get that sense that this is a worthwhile struggle, the people will continue struggling," he said.

The rebels still control a string of towns in eastern Congo, including the third-largest city, Kisangani, from where supplies can be ferried

on the Congo River to rebels around Kinshasa.

The rebels accuse Mr Kabila of power-grabbing and nepotism. "Fundamentally, this is a problem of how power is being misused," Mr Wamba said. "We need responsible leadership if we want to have stability in Congo and regionally."

Mr Kabila accuses Rwanda and Uganda of sponsoring the rebellion and invading the country.

But the rebel commander Jean-Pierre Ondekane, said yesterday that the countries backing the rebels had yet to intervene in the war. He warned that they would if the war continued.

Eurocrat

How Burma's resistance cheated the secret police

BY STEPHEN VINES
in Rangoon

RUNNING OR, more accurately, fleeing, down a road leading off an intersection close to Rangoon University, I wondered, for a moment, just a moment, what would happen if I stopped and waited to see what the baton-wielding riot police would do to a foreigner who was clearly not part of the protest they were breaking up.

Looks of genuine terror on the faces of those around me quickly pushed this idea out of my mind. The Burmese military and police are not known for their subtlety.

I had been observing a student demonstration, the first in over two years. It was a small affair organised in great secrecy. I knew of its existence only because I happened to be in the area and a woman in a car called out that students were gathering near by.

Anyone contemplating open protest in Burma faces considerable risks. Even the woman in the car had been spied by the many informants out on the streets, could have been thrown into jail for talking to me.

Shortly after this demonstration Aung San Suu Kyi, the leader of the National League for Democracy (NLD) opposition movement, told me: "If you do something that you're not frightened by I'm not sure it means that much but if you take part in a protest when you are frightened, that really is something."

"Fear and courage walk side by side," she added. "What we have to overcome is the fear." The NLD won an overwhelming parliamentary victory in 1990 but was not allowed to take its seats.

Only a fool would not sense the fear in Burma today. Yet there certainly is courage. Every single person at this demonstration faced the prospect of jail in horrendous

conditions for many years. As I ran down the road three students surrounded me and hustled me into an alley, fearing that I was too conspicuous. I urged them to leave me but they insisted that I take shelter in a nearby house where I was admitted without question.

By the time I left the house, plunging into darkened alleys, we had a tail. The students guiding me out still refused to leave me alone. The military intelligence officer trailing us made little attempt to conceal his presence and hung around until I disappeared in a taxi. The students left in another direction. I very much hope they are all right.

When I went to interview Ms Suu Kyi, I managed to attract even more attention. Not so long ago it was possible to go to her house in University Avenue where a cluster of goons surrounded the entrance, taking pictures of everyone going in and out. Now

Bohmu Aung is relatively untouchable. However this did not stop the ubiquitous military intelligence officers swarming round his house with cameras and putting a tail on foreigners as they left the premises.

First we left on foot, with an officer close behind. Then we jumped in a taxi. A large black car instantly materialised to follow us. We headed for a hotel, leapt out of the taxi and into one of the lifts. The man trailing us just missed the lift. We fled down the fire exit.

The foreign media, usually described as "destructionists" by the government propaganda machine, are an obsession with the regime.

The small band of mainly elderly Burmese journalists who work for foreign news agencies sensibly keep away from the visiting overseas media and stick to reporting stories that will not land them in jail.

Sending out stories and film involves elaborate circumnavigation because all phone lines are tapped, all fax machines have to be registered and their output is carefully monitored. The new Burmese Internet service is also subject to considerable surveillance.

Yet news seeps out, foreign radio stations are avidly listened to, word of mouth on the streets conveys information about protest activity.

The regime cannot seal every crack in the information network, even though it is doing its very best.



Aung San Suu Kyi: Trying to overcome the fear

Health insurance.

From 48p a day.

Call 0800 77 99 55

Prime Health

A member of the Standard Life Group

Ref: M11895NG

still@number.one

no-one's made getting on the internet easier.
no-one offers you more as standard : email,
15mb of free web space , games servers , games
website , 24-hour helpline and a quarterly
magazine . perhaps this explains why we're
the uk's number one internet service provider .
so for your free 30-day trial cd and brochure ,
call 0800 458 9666 or scribble your name and
address anywhere on this ad , tear it out and
send it to us at freepost demon (yes , that's
all you have to write) . and see how we got to
where we are today .



Demon Internet

more people get on with us

0800 458 9666

www.demon.net email : sales@demon.net

IN0000X

JULY 1998

Business & City Editor, Jeremy Warner
News desk: 0171-293 2636 Fax: 0171-293 2098
E-mail: IndyBusiness@Independent.co.uk

BUSINESS

BRIEFING

The Pharmacy backs into AIM
THE PHARMACY, the London bar and restaurant part-owned by Manchester United director Michael Edelson and public relations entrepreneur Matthew Freud, will be valued at up to £7.2m under terms for a reverse takeover announced yesterday.

The group is coming to the Alternative Investment Market via a reverse take-over of Hartford Group, a shell company. Hartford is paying an initial £3.6m for Bluelodge, the company that includes The Pharmacy, plus an additional payment of up to £3.6m depending on performance.

The deal is being funded by the issue of 644.6 million new shares.

Hartford shares have been suspended since January, pending further details on the deal. Hartford's existing leisurewear businesses will be sold, and Bluelodge then plans to expand the Pharmacy into a national business.

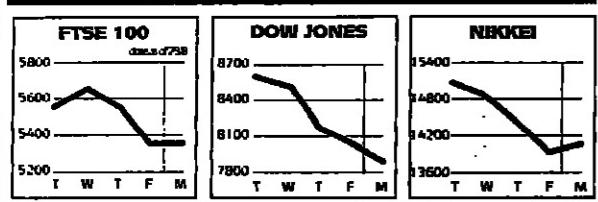
Mutuals' bull market stumbles

AMERICA'S MUTUAL FUND industry, for so long the humming engine of the bull market on Wall Street, is suddenly starting to sputter.

Final figures for August may show a net outflow of money from the equity funds, the first negative month since September 1990, nearly eight years ago.

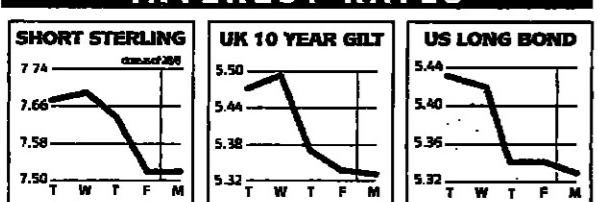
News Analysis, page 13

STOCK MARKETS



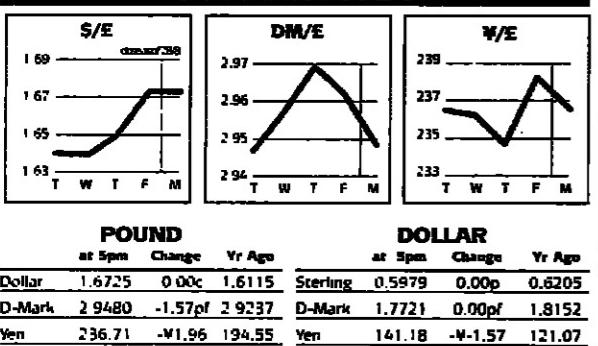
Indices	Close	Change	Chg %	S2 w/b high	S2 w/b low	Wk Chg
FTSE 100	5249.40	-0.00	0.00	6183.70	4382.80	-3.78
FTSE 250	6796.20	0.00	0.00	5970.90	4428.30	-4.21
FTSE 350	2515.10	0.00	0.00	2869.10	2141.80	-3.86
FTSE All Share	2440.84	0.00	0.00	2686.52	2106.59	-3.86
FTSE SmallCap	2126.10	0.00	0.00	2783.80	2102.20	-3.90
FTSE Fledgling	1187.10	0.00	0.00	1517.10	1187.10	-4.33
FTSE AIM	898.60	0.00	0.00	1146.90	898.60	-1.49
FTSE EBLOC 100	909.44	0.00	0.00			
Dow Jones	7940.71	-102.21	-1.27	9367.84	6971.32	-1.87
Nikkei	14107.89	192.26	1.38	18275.08	13792.76	-1.08
Hong Kong	7275.04	-554.70	-7.09	15242.65	6544.79	-5.56
Dax	4833.89	-199.65	-3.20	6217.83	3467.24	-3.32

INTEREST RATES



MONEY MARKET RATES			BOND YIELDS			
Index	3 month	Yr chg	1 Year	Yr chg	10 year	
UK	7.63	0.31	7.38	-0.25	5.33	-1.74
US	5.63	-0.09	5.53	-0.50	5.05	-1.23
Japan	0.63	0.06	0.64	-0.02	1.30	-0.92
Germany	3.48	0.17	3.64	-0.01	4.22	-1.47

CURRENCIES



OTHER INDICATORS

Close	Chg	Yr Ago	Index	Chg	Yr Ago	Next Rpt
Brent Oil (\$)	12.20	0.00	18.75	GDP	115.40	2.60
Gold (\$)	276.05	1.70	324.15	2003	3.50	157.49
Silver (\$)	4.79	0.00	4.72	Base Rate	7.50	7.00

www.bloomberg.com/uk

TOURIST RATES

Australia (\$)	2.8231	Mexican (nuevo peso)	14.90
Austria (schillings)	20.08	Netherlands (guilders)	3.2201
Belgium (francs)	58.98	New Zealand (\$)	3.2380
Canada (\$)	2.5213	Norway (krone)	12.83
Cyprus (pounds)	0.8358	Portugal (escudos)	291.29
Denmark (kroner)	10.95	Saudi Arabia (rials)	6.0421
Finland (markka)	8.7925	Singapore (\$)	2.8065
France (francs)	9.5832	Spain (pesetas)	242.00
Germany (marks)	2.8666	South Africa (rand)	10.33
Greece (drachma)	492.16	Sweden (koron)	13.17
Hong Kong (\$)	12.35	Switzerland (francs)	2.3596
Ireland (pounds)	1.1359	W/E	239
Indian (rupees)	5.8725		237
Israel (shekels)	5.8972		235
Italy (lira)	2835		233
Japan (yen)	231.29		
Malaysia (ringgit)	6.6370		
Malta (lira)	0.6213		

Source: Thomas Cook

Hong Kong fall sets scene for turmoil in markets

LONDON MARKETS are braced for further turbulence today after a sharp fall in the Hang Seng index and further declines on Wall Street as dealers continued to fret about the crisis in Russia.

The Duma's decision to reject Victor Chernomyrdin as prime minister came after the close of European markets, but analysts said the move would increase fears of a worsening situation in Russia.

As London traders return to their desks today after the August bank holiday, they will face markets still jittery after further volatile sessions yesterday.

Hong Kong stocks were the hardest hit with the Hang Seng losing almost 6 per cent of its value in the first seven minutes of trading yesterday following a government retreat from its massive buying campaign last Friday.

The Hang Seng eventually closed 7 per cent lower, or 544

points down at 7,275.04. In Frankfurt, the Xetra DAX fell 114.52 points, or 2.32 per cent to close at 4,811.28. Some dealers are forecasting a further 300 point fall.

In France the CAC-40 fell 57.12 points, or 1.54 per cent to 3,651.85 on thin volume.

In Russia, where the rouble

crisis sparked the global downturn, the RTS-1-Interfax index dipped 1.74 per cent on minimal volume.

In Brazil, where share prices fell by 40 per cent in August, a further two per cent fall was registered when European markets closed.

Markets had drawn comfort early on from a 1.38 per cent rally in Tokyo stocks. The Nikkei closed 192.6 points higher at 14,107 though elsewhere in Asia most share markets took a tumble.

Wall Street opened strongly and was up 43 points at one stage, but that confidence soon disappeared and the early gains turned into a 135 point fall (by 4.40pm), the first time the market had slipped below the 8,000 mark since 2 February.

The Nasdaq Composite

was also hammered, shedding 4.5 per cent at one stage.

On Wall Street dealers were

optimistic yesterday: "People

are piling out of technology stocks," one senior trader said.

"There is no news behind the plunge, just all round liquidation."

However, in London, some leading economists were more sanguine. Michael Hughes, a director of Barings

was

Asset Management, said:

"Until you can pinpoint some new news, this market will be directionless."

"The really good news would be US or UK interest rates starting to fall, but that might not happen until October or November," he said.

"Until then the focus will be on the bad news, particularly the Russian situation. Uncertainty there will cap the market for a while."

"But there is no doubt

that we are starting to see some semblance of value in the UK and, to some extent, in Asia."

Attention this week will shift to a meeting between American President Clinton and Boris Yeltsin.

The pair meet tomorrow

while Mr Yeltsin is still grappling with the financial crisis and a political vacuum following his decision a week ago to dismiss the government led by former Prime Minister Sergei Kiriyenko.

The pair meet tomorrow

while Mr Yeltsin is still grappling with the financial crisis and a political vacuum following his decision a week ago to dismiss the government led by former Prime Minister Sergei Kiriyenko.

The pair meet tomorrow

while Mr Yeltsin is still grappling with the financial crisis and a political vacuum following his decision a week ago to dismiss the government led by former Prime Minister Sergei Kiriyenko.

The pair meet tomorrow

while Mr Yeltsin is still grappling with the financial crisis and a political vacuum following his decision a week ago to dismiss the government led by former Prime Minister Sergei Kiriyenko.

The pair meet tomorrow

while Mr Yeltsin is still grappling with the financial crisis and a political vacuum following his decision a week ago to dismiss the government led by former Prime Minister Sergei Kiriyenko.

The pair meet tomorrow

while Mr Yeltsin is still grappling with the financial crisis and a political vacuum following his decision a week ago to dismiss the government led by former Prime Minister Sergei Kiriyenko.

The pair meet tomorrow

while Mr Yeltsin is still grappling with the financial crisis and a political vacuum following his decision a week ago to dismiss the government led by former Prime Minister Sergei Kiriyenko.

The pair meet tomorrow

while Mr Yeltsin is still grappling with the financial crisis and a political vacuum following his decision a week ago to dismiss the government led by former Prime Minister Sergei Kiriyenko.

The pair meet tomorrow

while Mr Yeltsin is still grappling with the financial crisis and a political vacuum following his decision a week ago to dismiss the government led by former Prime Minister Sergei Kiriyenko.

The pair meet tomorrow

while Mr Yeltsin is still grappling with the financial crisis and a political vacuum following his decision a week ago to dismiss the government led by former Prime Minister Sergei Kiriyenko.

The pair meet tomorrow

while Mr Yeltsin is still grappling with the financial crisis and a political vacuum following his decision a week ago to dismiss the government led by former Prime Minister Sergei Kiriyenko.

The pair meet tomorrow

while Mr Yeltsin is still grappling with the financial crisis and a political vacuum following his decision a week ago to dismiss the government led by former Prime Minister Sergei Kiriyenko.

The pair meet tomorrow

while Mr Yeltsin is still grappling with the financial crisis and a political vacuum following his decision a week ago to dismiss the government led by former Prime Minister Sergei Kiriyenko.

The pair

Central bank doves in the ascendancy

ONE OF the reasons why monetary policy is superior to fiscal policy as a mechanism for the short term management of the economy is that interest rates are much more able to respond to changing circumstances than tax rates and government spending plans. In recent months circumstances have been changing very rapidly, both in the UK and in the rest of the world, and the case for higher interest rates anywhere in the world has evaporated. The question on the table today is whether the major central banks should now be cutting rates.

Let us start with the UK. How does the debate on the conduct of monetary policy since the election now look? As usual, it is only possible to make definitive judgments on these matters several years after the event, so the following assessment is still very tentative. In my view, there remains a good case for arguing that base rates should have been increased more rapidly in 1997 in order to hit the consumer earlier and to persuade the foreign exchange markets that rates had well peaked before the start of 1998.

However, given that this was not achieved last year, it is no longer clear to me that the hawks on the MPC were right to argue for higher rates in the first half of this year. Without any doubt, Eddie George and DeAnne Julius, who were reluctant to raise rates from February onwards, have had their case strengthened by recent events.

GAVYN DAVIES

Business surveys suggest the economy may be heading for a harder landing than predicted

When I last wrote about UK monetary policy a couple of months ago, I said that the case for higher base rates depended on an assessment of the relative strength of two conflicting forces.

First, the increase in average earnings suggested that unemployment had fallen below its equilibrium rate, and that this implied that output was running as much as 2 per cent above its normal trend. Output would need to be brought back down to its trend level if inflation were to be controlled, and there was no case for delaying this correction.

Second, however, there was the question of whether output was al-

ready embarked on the necessary decline in response to earlier increases in base rates and the strength of the pound.

My conclusion was that output was indeed falling rapidly enough to control inflation on existing policy, so that further base rate increases were not needed. In August, the MPC concurred with this assessment.

Since then, new evidence has emerged on both the key questions outlined above. On the first, latest average earnings figures have been less worrying, and Robin Morris has presented evidence to suggest that much of the earlier rise in earnings was due to bonus payments. If he is right, then it is possible that earnings might decline more rapidly than normal as the economy slows.

Furthermore, the government statisticians are apparently preparing to reduce their previous estimates of GDP growth during the recent upswing by a cumulative 1.2 per cent. This would call into question whether output is as far above trend as had seemed likely on previous figures.

Meanwhile, on the second question, business surveys have continued to be very bleak indeed, suggesting that the economy may already be embarking on a harder landing than has been built into consensus projections. The CBI, which had previously remained quite sanguine in the face of plun-

ging confidence readings in its own survey, is now talking of three successive quarters of zero growth in the economy, which would be more than enough to achieve the necessary correction in output.

Consequently, both of the key forces have moved in a direction which is dovish for UK interest rates. The question of rate cuts will soon be on the agenda, and how soon we will see them announced depends largely on the path for sterling. This in turn hinges to an important extent on what happens to interest rates in the rest of the world.

For most of this year, it seemed very obvious that the relative balance of domestic monetary conditions in the major economies needed to be altered. Given the sharp tightening in labour market conditions in the US, the Federal Reserve was seeking an early opportunity to raise the Fed Funds rate. Equally obviously, Japan and the rest of Asia were desperately seeking ways of easing domestic monetary conditions, but were being thwarted by the chronic weakness of Asian exchange rates.

While it was very apparent that this change in relative monetary conditions was desirable, it was not so clear whether the overall stance of monetary policy in the OECD as a whole needed to be tightened or eased. This has now been clarified – it needs to be eased. This is because

the possibility of new shocks emanating from the financial markets has significantly increased the risk of a global recession in the next couple of years.

Financial markets have lately been characterised by an increase in risk aversion by global investors, especially in the area of emerging markets.

With investors asking for higher returns for holding emerging market assets, the cost of capital has risen sharply in Asia, Latin America and Eastern Europe. Individual episodes such as the collapses of Indonesia and now Russia should be seen in this light. As these collapses have occurred, there have been important contrac-

THE THREAT TO GROWTH				
OECD GDP GROWTH (ex.Korea)				
	1997	1998	1999	2000
With no Shocks	3.0	2.5	2.7	3.3
With Asia I (Main Case)	2.8	2.3	2.2	2.5
With Asia I and Asia II	2.8	2.2	2.0	2.0
With Asia I, II and Latin American Shocks	2.8	2.1	1.8	1.7
With Asia I, II and Equity Shocks	2.8	1.9	1.0	1.7

Source: Goldman Sachs
next year. The Asian shock that has already happened ("Asia 1") is likely to reduce this to 2.2 per cent. If there were further disorderly devaluations in Asia and Latin America, this would reduce the OECD growth rate to only 1.8 per cent. And if this were enough to trigger a sustained 30 per cent correction in global stockmarkets (compared with the July peak), the global growth rate would drop to only 1.0 per cent next year. This would be the third worst out-turn in any calendar year since the war, and suddenly talk of outright price deflation in the Western economies would no longer look so fanciful.

Fortunately, none of this has happened yet, and all of it is amenable to correction by timely action from the central banks. They essentially have two options. One is to wait and see whether financial market turbulence will quieten down of its own accord, and only to reduce interest rates if there are further major accidents, such as a devaluation in China, Hong Kong or Brazil. The other is to seek to head off the risk of such accidents by easing monetary policy in the US and Europe in a pre-emptive fashion, essentially seeking to give currency and equity markets a clear signal to calm down.

Central bankers are a cautious breed but even they might soon begin to think that just such a pre-emptive easing might be a prudent stich in time.

News Analysis: Until July, the US funds were attracting \$20bn a month

Wanted: good news to save mutuals' eight-year bull run



An affectionate pat on the nose for a bull statue near Wall Street. Investors see warning signs of a mutual funds sell-off Adam Nadel/AP

AMERICA'S mutual fund industry, for so long the humming engine of the bull market on Wall Street, is suddenly starting to splutter. Indeed, when all the sums are done, August may show a net outflow of money from the equity funds. That would be first negative

BY DAVID USBORNE

In New York

month since September 1990, nearly eight years ago.

No wonder managers of the funds, many of whom have never had to deal with a market that is going south, are having kittens. And, for now, there is little they can do except watch and pray that the investors who have kept them flying for so many years ignore the gloom and come back to the party.

"It's hand-holding time right now," one leading manager on Wall Street sighed yesterday.

"Our greatest fear is that this goes on long enough that the public will start to go sour on us. Then, who knows what will happen."

How individual investors in America react to the current turmoil is critical to what happens next. No less than 59 per cent of all stocks in the United States is held by households, and much of that investment is directed through the mutual funds. Since 1991, the funds have taken in a fatter-busting \$1.1 trillion. Even until July this year, they were attracting \$20bn or more in fresh cash every month.

The good news is that so far, there is little evidence of panic. Either because they are not ready to believe that the bull market is really over or because they early on that they were ready to ride out the bad times

with the good, large numbers of investors are so far resisting the urge to sell outright.

The evidence that sentiment is worsening, however, is inescapable. With the Dow Jones industrial index down nearly 14 per cent since its 17 July peak, the impulse to get out, by shifting, for example, to fixed-income securities or to money-market funds, can only get stronger. American investors have not witnessed a slide in stock values of this magnitude since the 21 per cent drop suffered during the 1990 Gulf War.

And crucially, while some may for now be holding on to their stocks, few seem moved to see a buying opportunity in the recent slide. Only if investors decide to buy on the dips can there be any realistic chance that the swoon in the Dow will turn out to be a correction instead of the start of a real bear market.

With the help of a baseball analogy, Michael Meldor of Salomon Smith Barney commented: "I think the consensus is rolling around that we're in the second inning of a bear market rather than the ninth of a bull market."

Some analysts warn there is far worse to come, like Steve Leuthold, a long-time money manager in Minneapolis. He believes that even with the recent slide, US stocks are something like 35 per cent overvalued. "It continues to be one

of, if not the most, overvalued equity markets of all time," he suggested, adding that the Dow industrials could fall to 5,000 before the valuations are back in line with earnings. "If we move to net redemptions of mutual funds on a consistent basis, it could happen awfully quickly."

Unless the Dow picks itself up quickly, there is a clear risk that the pace of redemptions will begin to snowball, espe-

cially as investors, who have become accustomed to gains of 20 per cent a year, see how far back some of their favourite funds have dropped. As the end of last week, at least four of the largest US fund companies were confirming net withdrawals by investors, including Boston-based Fidelity.

Lipper Analytical, which tracks fund performances, notes that more than a third of its fund categories are now off by more than 10 per cent from their highs. That alone, says Michael Lipper, is an indication that "we have elements of a bear market."

Fund managers are attempting to reassure them-

selves, and their clients, with the mostly good news offered by America's domestic economy.

They point out that more than 70 per cent of economic activity in the US derives from households, where, for now at least, the picture remains over-

whelmingly positive. Consumer confidence is still high, in spite of the current market crisis.

The employment statistics are stellar – just about anyone who wants a job in America has one

– and income levels are at historic highs. Nor, with inflation still at bay, is there any obvious pressure on the Federal Reserve to raise interest rates.

Perhaps the most upbeat voices on Wall Street is that of Abby Cohen, investment strategist for Goldman Sachs. She believes it cannot be long before investors begin to buy up some of the dropping stocks, notably in the financial and technology sectors. "If investors are inclined to raise little cash, they look to sell the stocks that have gone up a lot," she commented. "But we think that the change in fundamentals has been dramatically overstated."



Abby Cohen: An upbeat voice on Wall Street

cially as investors, who have become accustomed to gains of 20 per cent a year, see how far back some of their favourite funds have dropped. As the end of last week, at least four of the largest US fund companies were confirming net withdrawals by investors, including Boston-based Fidelity.

Lipper Analytical, which

Catalogue sales boom for high street giants

BRITAIN'S MAIL ORDER market is on the brink of a substantial surge in growth as retailers, such as Marks & Spencer and Arcadia, enter the market, according to a fresh report published today.

The report, from Verdict, the leading retail consultancy, says that the traditional mail order houses such as Littlewoods and Great Universal Stores have been spurred on by these new entrants to offer more innovative direct marketing catalogues.

New catalogues such as La Redoute, Select and The Book are targeting people outside the

traditional agency market, and can compete directly with the high street, providing a stimulus for strong growth.

Verdict says more providers are likely to follow the example of Next, which offers home shopping under the same brand name as its high street outlets.

Firms using the traditional agency route, which still makes up just over half of all catalogue sales, are taking an ever-decreasing share of the market.

"Home shopping has for too long failed to realise its potential as a convenient form of shopping. The key was the

weak brand identity of the traditional mail order houses and the downmarket associations. The entry of high street retail brands will widen the reach of home shopping and make it more acceptable," Verdict said.

The UK home shopping market grew by 7.9 per cent last year to £9.2bn, largely as a result of the entry of companies such as M&S and Arcadia.

Direct catalogues were the main driver, showing 15 per cent growth. GUS remains the market leader with a 24 per cent share, followed by Littlewoods and Grattan.

NEW INVESTMENT RATES

Effective from 1 September 1998

ANNUAL RATES				
Scarborough 120 & 120 By Post	7.45	5.96		
£50,000 - £250,000	7.35	5.88		
£25,000 - £49,999.99	7.25	5.80		
£10,000 - £24,999.99	7.15	5.72		
£5,000 - £9,999.99				
MONTHLY RATES				
Scarborough 120 & 120 By Post*	7.22	5.78		
£50,000 - £250,000	7.12	5.62		
£25,000 - £49,999.99	7.02	5.54		
£10,000 - £24,999.99	6.92			
£5,000 - £9,999.99				
Scarborough 30 & 30 By Post*				
£1,000 - £250,000	7.07	5.66		
£100 - £999.99	6.97	5.54		
Scarborough Standard				
£25,000 - £250,000	3.95	3.16		
£10,000 - £24,999.99	3.85	2.98		
£5,000 - £9,999.99	3.75	2.88		
£1,000 - £24,999.99	3.65	2.78		
First Post Plus				
£25,000 - £250,000	4.15	3.32		
£10,000 - £24,999.99	4.05	3.20		
£5,000 - £9,999.99	3.95	3.08		
£1,000 - £24,999.99	3.85	2.98		
Scarborough First Post*				
£25,000 - £250,000	3.85	3.08		
£10,000 - £24,999.99	3.45	2.76		
£5,000 - £9,999.99	3.35	2.68		
£1,000 - £24,999.99	3.25	2.58</		

Shell companies still have their attraction

THE STOCK market may be in turmoil but trading in shells, one of the City's time-honoured exercises, continues to flourish. In the past month two have arrived and others are thought to be in various stages of fulfilment.

Shells are companies with little, if any, trading operations. They often have cash in the bank, but their price asset is their share quotation.

For a variety of reasons it is often cheaper, easier and quicker for an unquoted business to come to market via a shell than to indulge in a full-blown flotation.

Even stockbrokers have adopted the shell route. Earlier this year Teather & Greenwood reversed into NRC, a little property group, and last month Ellis & Partners picked the quirkily named Captain O M Watts, once a well-known yacht chandler, for its market debut.

The strength of both stockbrokers is their involvement in small companies and they are accomplished at alighting on suitable shells and arranging reverse takeovers.

Teather, in the market, is still known as NRC, but Ellis, which merged with Clifton Financial, a small company adviser, is now Talisman House. Both Teather and Ellis are traded on AIM.

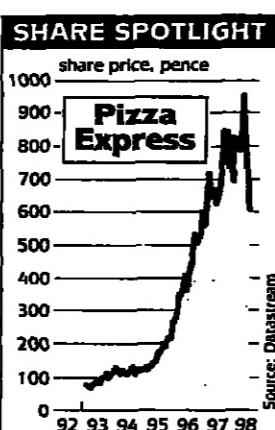
The Stock Exchange, for some unexplained reason, has never fully accepted the shell business. At times it has seemed intent on putting an end to it. But although it has become more refined over the years and adjusted for changes in the rules the shell practice, with a few hiccups, has survived and generally prospered.

Fotsie is not immune from the shell approach. Carlton Communications, the television group, came to market via a little company which published the *Fleet Street Let-*

STOCK MARKET WEEK



DEREK PAIN



Ter tip sheet and the likes of Tompkins and the now disbanded Hanson conglomerate more or less grew out of shells.

PizzaExpress, a mid cap constituent, emerged from an unsuccessful computer group under the direction of Luke Johnson. The former City analyst, the son of writer Paul, loves the shell approach but has not always hit the jackpot.

PizzaExpress, however, has had an outstanding run moving from the equivalent of 65p to hit 95p. It closed last week at 60p.

His latest shell (in more ways than one) is Belgia, a former property concern. He pumped two Belgian beer and mussel restaurants into the obscure company and since

added five of London's top eateries.

At one time shells were mainly plantation companies. These relics of empire limped along with share quotes, but little else, having been stripped of their operations as colonies gained their independence.

They often exerted their nationalist pride by taking over, usually paying for the privilege, the plantations.

One of the available shells is an old plantation company, Dalkeith, once operating in Sri Lanka. It has experienced several incarnations. The last role was unsuccessful pub operator.

It sold its little chain and with cash in the bank awaits a reverse takeover proposition by a prosperous unquoted group. Its shares are 27.5p, giving a £1.5m capitalisation.

Delya, cash rich with some property interests, is regarded as another; its shares are 95.5p providing a rather more impressive £2.3m price tag.

Others looking for substance include Grosvenor Cpl and £2m) and Cambury (£2.25m).

Hartford is a new breed, a specially-created shell. Its shares are suspended at 2.75p while it completes the reverse takeover of one of London's latest trendy restaurants, The Pharmacy, in a deal billed as worth £10m.

Most shells these days reside on AIM, although some likely candidates exist with full listings.

Investors can reap rich rewards. But a few words of warning: a reverse takeover often requires a heavy cash call and shareholders can be sharply diluted. And the revamped operation may be a disaster: Shells litter the corporate graveyard and many which survive with their new yoke merely limp along with

little real future until they, perhaps, find another reverse takeover.

Shells do not feature in this week's profits schedule, although Daejan, once a rubber planter now a property group and valued at £24m, holds its yearly meeting on Friday.

Enterprise Oil, with half-year figures, heads the list; it will have to battle to stay in the black. BT Alex Brown's Caroline Cook expects an 88 per cent decline in clean net income to £2.6m.

The slump in the crude oil price is responsible for much of the woes afflicting Enterprise and the rest of the oil industry.

The building industry is well represented. House builder Persimmon is expected to produce interim profits of £28m (against £23.3m); Marley, now a building materials group, should manage half-time figures of £25.5m (£24.5m) and Graham, the builders' merchant, is thought to be set for interim of £11m (£1.3m).

Wickes, the once troubled group which is both builders merchant and retailer, should produce its first profits, albeit interim, since it was hit by an accountancy scandal three years ago. Around £11m against a £14.7m deficit is expected.

AMEC, the construction group, is another on the agenda; it could manage £21.5m up from £16m.

Other interim results are due from packaging groups Jefferson Smurfit and Buntz. The Irish-based operation could manage £11.00m against £16.1m and Buntz should produce a modest improvement at £26.5m.

Fashion retailer Monsoon with year's figures is thought to be on target for £28.6m against £15.4m. It floated in February.

IN BRIEF

Shell seeking a refining partner

ROYAL DUTCH/Shell yesterday said it was in talks with several big oil companies, including Texaco, about merging its European refining operations with a competitor.

The oil giant wants a merger to boost refining profits, which fell by 10 per cent in the second quarter of this year. Reports of full-blown merger talks with Texaco were dismissed as speculation.

Reinsurer sale

CREDIT SUISSE GROUP is to sell the reinsurance arm of Winterthur Insurance to Bermuda-based PartnerRe for \$776m as the Swiss bank continues to restructure its portfolio.

Winterthur will concentrate on direct insurance, Credit Suisse said.

Brew bid rejected

GROLSE, the Dutch brewing group, has rejected a takeover bid from Interbrew of Belgium. It said the NFL70 per share offer was not in the interests of shareholders. Interbrew said it would not launch a hostile bid.

EU nod for BP

BPS PROPOSED \$3.2bn merger with Amoco is not likely to face major regulatory problems in Europe, according to Karel van Miert. The EU competition commissioner said over the weekend: "It doesn't seem that problematic a case" because the two businesses "are to a large extent complementary."

US 'grounds' C-17

BOEING'S attempt to export a civilian model of its C-17 military transport aircraft has stalled because of security concerns from the US government, reports said yesterday. Pentagon officials say that the MD-17, the civilian version, would provide any military force with a "tremendous capability".

ISA providers warn of delays

BY ANDREW VERTHY

THE GOVERNMENT'S plans for Individual Savings Accounts have suffered a further setback from providers who warn they will not be able to offer government-endorsed ISAs when they come on stream next April.

Providers say delays in detailed government proposals for "CAT-marked" ISAs – savings meeting prescribed criteria for Cost, Access and Terms – mean few, if any, of the

products will be available to the public on schedule.

Hard proposals have been put back until October at the earliest following the last cabinet reshuffle, when Helen Liddell, the Treasury minister in charge of the plans, was replaced by Patricia Hewitt.

Autif, the unit trust trade body, now says it is going to be "impossible" for its members to

adapt computer systems in time to offer unit trusts within CAT-marked ISAs by April 6, the scheduled start date.

Philip Warland, its director general, said unit trust firms – already preoccupied with screening for the millennium computer bug – had "not the faintest prayer" of having systems ready.

M&G, one of the biggest unit trust managers, said Treasury plans for single pricing on CAT-

Duke defends his family domain

WHO'S SUING WHOM

JOHN WILLCOCK



the trademark Playboy "rabbit head" design.

The British defendants in the legal action include Sport Newspapers of Melton Road, Thurnscoe, Leicestershire.

The American Playboy business empire, founded by Hugh Hefner, has issued a writ in the London High Court via solicitors Lovell White Durrant and dated 12 August.

The writ seeks an injunction stopping the defendants from "distributing, selling, offering, advertising or exposing for sale or supply, video cassettes

or business stationery the First Plaintiff's trademarks

PLAYBOY, RABBIT HEAD and DESIGN, PLAYMATE and PLAYMATE OF THE YEAR

The defendants include Screen Multimedia of Maddox Street, London; City Trading of Barking, Essex; Palan Trading and Palan Distribution of Kingsway, London; and the proprietors of three "private shops" at Brewer Street in Soho, Forest Road in Walthamstow and Upton Lane in Forestgate respectively.

PORTSMOUTH Football Club has launched a writ against ASICS UK, a company which has supplied playing kit to the club's players, and JJB Sports, which has supplied replica kit to supporters.

The club's writ, issued on 18 August, refers to various agreements between it and the defendants to produce kit featuring the club's logo between 1995 and 1997.

The writ also refers to an earlier dispute in 1997 when ASICS claimed it was owed money by the club.

The club alleges that the defendants produced clothing featuring the club's logo after the various sponsorship agreements had expired, and demands an injunction to stop them doing so. The writ, issued by solicitors Hammond Standards of Manchester, also asks for damages.



Philip Warland: Not even a prayer of being ready

THIS WEEK'S DIARY

TODAY – Interims: BCH Group, Calderburn, Finlay (James), IBC, Marshalls, Perkins Food, Burzl, CRH, Persimmon. Finals: Almacus Group, ABMs: Laporte, Transport Development Group, Economics Purchasing Managers' Index (August), Provisional M0 (August), Final M4 (July), Consumer Credit (July), Monetary and Financial Statistics.

WEDNESDAY – Interims: Beauford, Bistrac International, CMG, Graham Group, Guardian Group, Hickson Group, Johnston Press, Matalan, Mintras, Skysphere, Serco, Wilson Bowden. Finals: Britt Aircraft, Linx Printing, Monsoon, Roxspur. AGMs:

Huntingdon Life, Economics: UK of fiscal reserves (August).

THURSDAY – Interims: AMEC, Bazaar & Hawkes, Caird, Clubhaus, Delphi Group, Enterprise Oil, Evans Halshaw Marchpole, Meggin Marley, Senior Engineering, Slough Estates, Swallowfield, Wembly, Wickes, Wilson (Connolly). Finals: IAF Group, isotron, AGMs: Man (EDF), Economics: CIPS Service Survey (August).

FRIDAY – Interims: Hammerson, ITNet, AGMs: Daejan Holdings, General Electric, Economics: Construction output (Q2), New car sales (August).

BUSINESS TO BUSINESS

TEL: 0171 293 2222

FAX: 0171 293 2505

Franchises

Do you want to own a UNIQUE TRAVEL BUSINESS? Do You:

- ✓ Enjoy meeting groups of people?
- ✓ Have an outgoing personality?
- ✓ Want to take control of your future?
- ✓ Want to be part of a unique long operator business with repeat opportunities?
- ✓ Want to run a really profitable business?
- ✓ Want to be part of a rapidly expanding company?

YES?

Then we want to meet you now!

No Security required.

Phone NUMBER TEN TRAVEL 01227 274544

for further details

Exclusive areas Available

Services

THAMES VALLEY PRINT

• Full print service • Full Colour Printing • Wedding Stationery • Print on T-shirts • Greeting Cards • Raffle Tickets • Sign Writing Service • Self Rubber Stamps • Fax Bureau Service • Print onto Carrier Bags • Freephone 0800 7319275 Tel 01235 203506 Freefax 0808 1001398 ** Open ** Monday To Friday: 8am-8pm 38 Swinbourne Road, Abingdon, Oxfordshire OX14 2HD www.thamesvalleyprint.co.uk

Is your mail safe?

Have it sent here for guaranteed security. We keep your name and address totally confidential at all times.

I rely on Monomarks 100 per cent'

(long term client)

Mailboxes - 3, 6, 12 months - and you don't have to live in the area.

OR -

The status of a London Street Address - a must for out of town businesses

PLUS:

24-hour telephone answering in your name.

Tel: 0500 035 036

Fax: 0171 831 9489

email: info@monomarks.co.uk

British Monomarks Ltd

Service since 1925

VISA

Mastercard

Amex

Switch

Access

Barclaycard

Europay

Discover

Interlink

Monex

Switch

SPORT



Joey Benjamin (main picture) took five wickets against Nottinghamshire while Ian Ward (top right) and Nadeem Shahid (bottom right) have scored heavily when replacing Surrey's England men



Allsport

Surrey's winning squad ethic

THE REMARKABLE thing about Surrey's summer is not that they are top of the Championship, nor the fact that they have stayed there, setting the pace virtually from the outset, but rather who has kept them there. Because it has not been the household names who have been doing all the hard work this summer.

When Alec Stewart, Graham Thorpe, Mark Butcher, Ian Salisbury, Alastair Brown, Adam Hollioake and his brother Ben have all gone off to do their bit for Queen, Lord MacLaurin and country, Surrey have had to turn to their volunteer reserve force for some sterling work in maintaining the Championship challenge.

It has not just been England calls which have decimated the squad either – injuries have taxed Surrey's staffing levels too. Thorpe joined the casualty list halfway through the season and was ruled out for the rest of it, joining the opening batsman Darren Bicknell, who did not even start it. And latterly Alex Tudor and Ben Hollioake have also been laid up.

For each enforced absence – and the club has had to cope with a minimum of three England calls plus a couple of injuries at any one time this year – players have had to be found who were capable and competent enough to step into the breach. More than that, though, there has to be confidence in the side that allows the stand-ins to step in at a moment's notice and just perform.

Equally, the regulars remaining in the team have to have faith in the under-20s' abilities and, more importantly, communicate that faith to the in-comers.

As proud as each and every one of their internationals must have felt as they have walked off to represent their country, there is no doubt that they will have cast more than one anxious glance over their shoulder wondering whether Surrey can manage without them.

The answer, almost every time, has been that they could. So who are these brave few? These stalwarts on whom a county relies in time of need? They are men whose names should be carved into the walls of the Surrey pavilion should Hollioake and his men win the County Championship for the first time since Micky Stewart, now their president, led Surrey to the title in 1971.

The names of Jason Ratcliffe, Nadeem Shahid, Ian Ward and Joey Benjamin do not exactly get autograph hunters salivating and licking their pencils, but what they have achieved in the absence of the big guns is quite something. Runs and wickets have been the name of their game. Ben Hollioake, too, has started to come good with the ball. Brown has led the way with the bat, scoring four hundreds and five half-centuries to bring himself within sight of his 1,000 for the summer – 964 at 60.25.

It has taken some time but it is beginning to look as if Surrey have finally got it together, in the truest sense of the word. "We are made to feel appreciated by Surrey," admitted Ratcliffe, who is in his fourth season at The Oval after leaving his native Warwickshire at the end of the 1994 season. "None of us is happy with our situation," he continued, alluding to the fact that the "reserves" would rather be automatic first choices. "But, to be fair, to Surrey they look after us well. We are made to feel we belong."

"It is hard to be in, then out of the

side, and when we are in to be expected to perform, but we are giving everything to the cause."

It is the squad ethic – something that the English, and possibly even the British, find hard to get their heads around. Alec Stewart, as captain of England, did something that suggested he is aware of the concept of squad.

Championship Top Five

	P	W	L	D	BB	Int.
Surrey	14	9	5	0	50	235
Leicestershire	14	8	6	0	35	39
Nottinghamshire	14	8	6	0	25	44
Gloves	14	8	1	5	212	53
Warwickshire	14	6	9	3	39	202

Remaining fixtures

Surrey	Todays Yorkshire (Headingley), 9 Sept;
	Durham (Chester-le-Street), 17 Sept;
	Leicestershire (The Oval), 17 Sept
Today: Warwickshire (Edgbaston), 9 Sept;	Sussex (Leicester), 17 Sept; Surrey (The Oval)
Lancashire	Today: Derbyshire (Old Trafford), 11 Sept;
	Sept: Nottinghamshire (Trent Bridge), 17 Sept; Lancashire (Old Trafford), 17 Sept
Gloves	Today: Northamptonshire (Bristol), 9 Sept; Middlesex (Lord's), 17 Sept; Nottinghamshire (Trent Bridge), 17 Sept
Warwickshire	Today: Surrey (Headingley), 9 Sept; Warwickshire (Headingley), 17 Sept; Sussex (Hove), 17 Sept

After England had clinched the Test series over South Africa at Headingley, one of the first things Stewart did was to ring Thorpe and Glamorgan's Robert Croft, both of whom had played three matches in the series. "You win and lose together in the squad," Stewart said. "That is what Surrey have, a strength in depth in terms of talent and a lot of unsung heroes on whom you know you can rely when you need them. Surrey's present position can be put down to a real club effort."

Another man, watching from a distance these days, who is not surprised at what Surrey are achieving is David Gilbert, now Sussex's deputy chief executive and director of cricket, but last year the cricket manager at The Oval. It would be a churlish and a curmudgeonly person who would deny Gilbert some of the credit for Surrey's success this year.

Gilbert is too modest even to hint at it, but he admitted: "I'm not surprised that they are where they are, nor that they can withstand the loss of so many talented players at critical times and still win. If ever a competition was created for the County Championship, it then has to be the

County Championship. And the

squad system has to be there for a team like Surrey, with all their international players."

When Gilbert arrived at The Oval in 1995 he inherited a lot of egos in one basket. Hugely talented individuals, granted, but equally blessed (or cursed) with large dollops of character as well. There was every

likelihood that the fine dividing line between self-belief and arrogance was overstepped frequently within the squad. Managing that little lot was no picnic.

"These days the pitches at The Oval are not the hard bouncy ones of days gone by. They suit spin these days. Championship-winning sides in the past have had spin twins. Middlesex had Emburey and Edmonds, Essex had Such and Childs and Surrey in the 1950s had Laker and Lock. In the late 1990s they have Saglam and Salisbury."

"Another factor in the Surrey success has to be the guys such as Martin Bicknell, who is bowling better these days than at any time in his career. I wonder how long England can go on ignoring him. It's about time they forgave him for his early-career injury problems."

"Then there is the fact that they can call on so many talented players who cannot command a regular first-team place and those guys then perform. They also have a good manager in Keith Medlycott, an old Surrey player who understands that special togetherness of the club and has ensured it has not been lost with all the injuries and international calls; it all boils down to them having a good squad set-up. Surrey's prospects are clearly in good hands."

Holmes benefitting from new realism

ATHLETICS

BY MIKE ROWBOTTOM

SO IMMersed was Kelly Holmes in her return to the athletics scene in Glasgow on Sunday that she missed the team bus back to the hotel because she was signing autographs. She knows now, however, that she is not going to miss the bus as far as the Commonwealth Games are concerned.

On an afternoon when the overall mood was one of celebration, with a sell-out crowd eager to acknowledge Britain's returning European champions, there was a tension about

Holmes's race over a mile which had to do with the fear – hers, and the spectators' – that her first serious competition after a 13-month absence with injury might end in tears.

After a cautious start, the way in which she broke clear of Paula Radcliffe just before the bell answered the unspoken question in everybody's minds. The sharpness was still lacking, but the strength, and competitive spirit, were still there.

Holmes will not race again before starting the defence of the 1500 metres title she won in Victoria four years ago. Instead, she will travel to Ireland for further treatment with the massage therapist whom she

credits with saving her career, Ger Hartmann.

After breaking down in the heats of last year's world championships with a ruptured Achilles tendon, the 28-year-old Tonbridge athlete has endured a nightmarish period of exile. Following an ineffective operation to clear scar tissue in January, she was still questioning whether she had a future in the sport as late as of May.

"It was a lonely, hard year," she said. "I got to the stage where I just didn't know where to look. Your mind starts to play tricks on you when you can't see any way of getting back. I wasn't going to give up, but it was very hard to see a future."

But the future was bright; the future was Hartmann. Through Britain's team doctor, Malcolm Brown, Holmes was put in contact with the man whom Liz McColgan said had saved her career four years ago, and the work of rehabilitation began in earnest.

For four days, as Hartmann manipulated the scar tissue on her leg to restore mobility to her ankle, the woman who used to be an Army PT instructor and judo champion was reduced to tears. "It was agony," she said. "But it was worthwhile."

Holmes's sequence of injuries in recent years – shin splints in 1995,

a stress fracture which she attempted in vain to disregard at the 1996 Olympics – has caused many to question whether she has tended to over-train. Her most recent injury occurred during a final session of preparation for last year's world championships, which she had approached in the form of her life.

She says now that she has altered her approach. "I've learnt what things my body can and can't take," she said. "There is a line between being very fit and being injured, and you don't always know where the line is. But if I'm tired now, I will have a rest day, whereas before I would probably just have gone out for another session."

On a smaller scale, Glasgow represented a confirmation of health for another British woman athlete, namely Alison Curbishley, who set a Scottish All Comers' 400m record of 50.73sec. For Curbishley, who plans to move up to 400m hurdles next season, it was an unexpected bonus after a European Championship where her disappointment at finishing only fifth in the individual event was tempered by the relay medal.

"I was in the shape of my mind and I really saw myself being up there," she said. "When you are not, you go back to the team hotel really desolate. Now I am back in pb ways and, as the cliché goes, I'm over the moon."



Holmes: Back in business

Claydon is happy among the heavyweights

GOLF
BY JOHN OAKLEY

RUSSELL CLAYDON may weigh more than 16 stone but he has no intention of going on any fitness courses.

The 32-year-old from Cambridge won his first European Tour event at the BMW International in Munich, and many of his fellow professionals believe he might be even better if he lost a little weight. But Claydon is a happy soul. "If you think I'm going to run round Brighton beach, you have another think coming," he said.

Claydon, who won in Munich on Sunday with an 18-under-par aggregate of 270 to beat Jamie Spence by one shot, also has the most orthodox grip of any Tour professional. He wraps his huge hands round the club with a three-knuckle grip and said cheerfully: "Well, it works."

It certainly did on Sunday as he beat off the challenge of Spence, the Germans Thomas Gogel and Bernhard Langer, and the Danish Ryder Cup player Thomas Bjorn as he finished with a four-under-par 68. Claydon's win came just one week before the points for the 1999 Ryder Cup in Brookline, Massachusetts, start at the Canon European Masters in Switzerland.

Asked if he was sorry to have won one week too early, Claydon replied: "Not at all. I might win next week as well."

David Duval became the second player in US PGA Tour history to win more than \$2m in a season with a two-stroke victory at the World Series of Golf in Ohio.

Duval joined Tiger Woods as the US tour's only \$2m men the \$270,000 first prize boosting his 1998 earnings to almost \$1.4m. He also became the first player since Zimbabwe's Nick Price in 1993-94 to win at least three tournaments in consecutive years. Since 1990, only seven other players have accomplished the feat - Jack Nicklaus, Arnold Palmer, Billy Casper, Raymond Floyd, Tom Watson, Lee Trevino and Johnny Miller.

The 26-year-old from Florida ended a recent slump that saw him miss the cut on his previous two starts, the PGA Championship and Sprint International. He carded a two-under 68 for an 11-under 269 total.

Phil Mickelson, who led after the first round, also closed with a 68 to grab sole possession of second place.

Davis Love was third on eight-under 272. John Cook was four shots back, one stroke ahead of Woods and Loren Roberts.

In Canada's Greater Vancouver Open, Brandel Chamblee fired a final round five-under-par 66 to gain his first career victory.

Chamblee finished at 19-under-par 265 and won by three shots as he tied the tournament record set last year by Mark Calcavecchia. The 36-year-old won after Payne Stewart faltered over the closing holes. Stewart held a one-shot lead over Chamblee entering the final round, but managed

just a one-under 70 and has won only once since his victory in the 1991 US Open. He had a pair of bogeys over the final five holes.

The captain of the United States' Solheim Cup team, Judy Rankin has used her two choices for the team on Rosie Jones and Steinbauer; who finished 11th and 12th in the Cup standings. Rankin said that was not nearly as important as their experience.

Jones, who needed to win the State Farm Rail Classic this weekend to earn a spot on the team but instead missed the cut, has a 4-2-0 record in the 1990 and 1996 Solheim Cup matches, both US victories.

Rankin look harder at Steinbauer, and she feels she came up with a winner.

Steinbauer was also 12th on the money list, the highest of any American who was not already on the team, and she was ranked fifth in birdies and sixth in greens in regulation, two important statistics for match play.

"When you look at my list from 11 to 20, she is the player who stepped forward and has done something," Rankin said. "When I looked in depth at some of the things she was accomplishing, she deserved her shot. She earned points in seven events this year, which I couldn't get other players to do."

TT hero rides a storm to the end



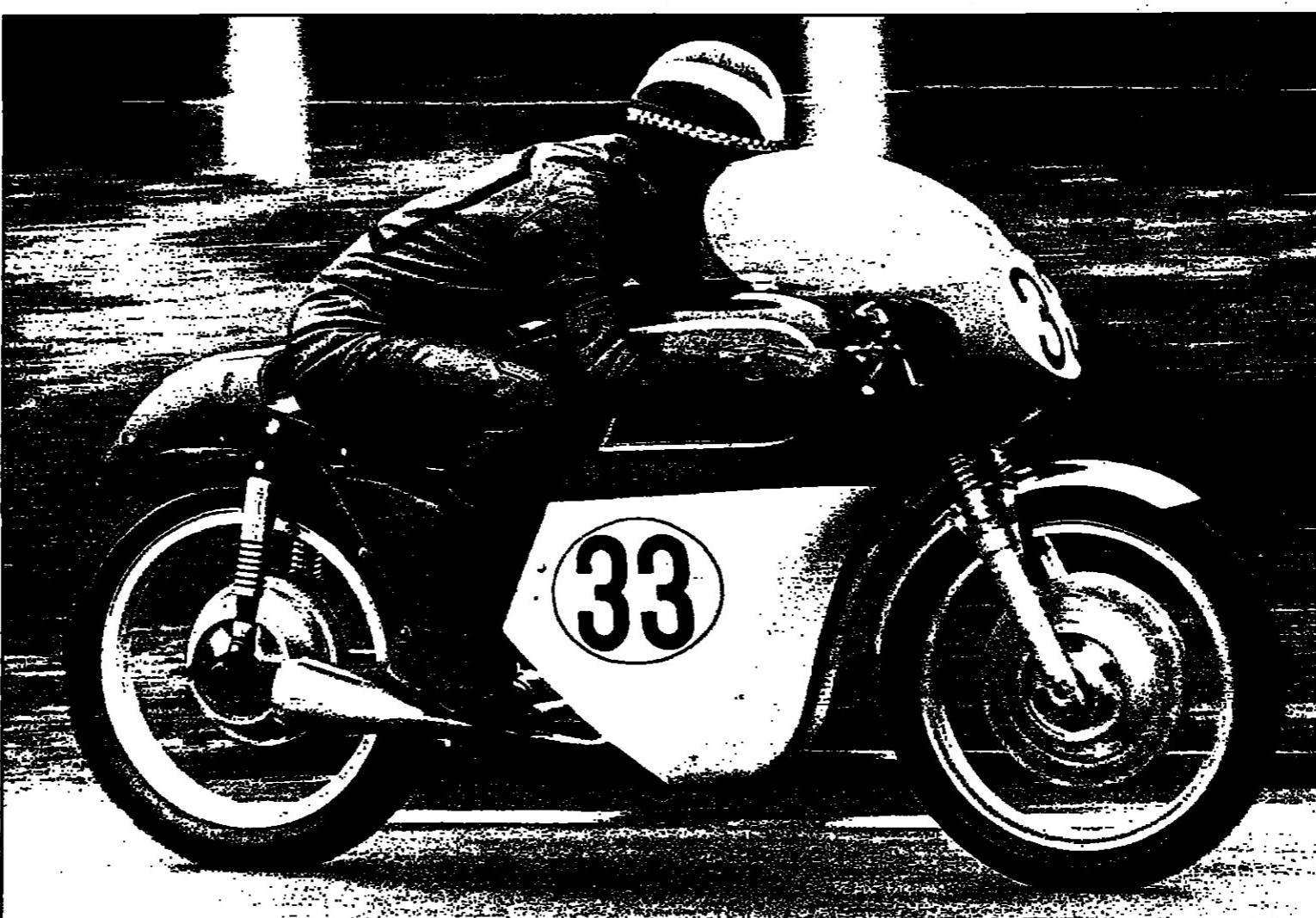
Alan Seeley sees the hero and villain of Manx racing, Phil Read (left), finish a poignant final lap

"THE OLDER I am, the faster I was" is the self-deprecating motto of many motorcycle road racers, slowing down as the years go by. But Phil Read, the seven-times world grand prix champion, was not quite ready to hang up his leathers, even though the glory days of works rides for Yamaha and MV Agusta are a long way behind him.

The 59-year-old Read, who became a household name with a string of epic wins in the 1960s and 70s, raced for the last time yesterday on the legendary Isle of Man TT course, a key circuit in the forging of his reputation, and one of the last in the world to be made up of public roads.

Read's return to the punishing 38-mile Isle of Man Mountain course, to contest the Senior Classic Manx Grand Prix, was an emotional one as it marked the 40th anniversary of his first island race, the 1958 junior event. Next year he will be 60 and his age will bar him from racing.

Mist and fog delayed the start by three hours yesterday and Read had to be content with



16th place behind Walsall's Bob Heath. Even so, the ageing racer averaged 94.5mph over the three laps and earned a silver replica awarded to the first 18 home.

Read's first victory came in the 1968 senior (500cc) Manx.

The following year came the first of his seven TT wins in the junior (350cc) event.

In 1972 the TT still counted towards the world championship and was more dangerous than the other circuits. Following the death of the Italian, Gilberto Parolotti, Read was one of the most vocal of the leading riders in a campaign to have the TT's championship status revoked.

This duly happened, but made Read unpopular with many Isle of Man purists.

Read is unrepentant about his support of the campaign, but retains a soft spot for the Isle of Man: "By the early '70s we had a feeling that rider safety wasn't at the top of the race organisers' priorities, and the price for riders who did come a cropper was far too high. Parolotti's death

was the final straw. But the Isle of Man is still the greatest and most challenging circuit in the world."

Returning to the Island in 1977, Read proved he had lost none of his aptitude for the Mountain Course, snatching victory in the Formula One and the prestigious senior events, on a Honda and a Suzuki.

"It was a very emotional and worrying return. I had a van with my name on the side which I parked on the sea-front in Douglas. A policeman knocked on the hotel room door and suggested I hide the van round the back for fear of public reprisal.

Some of the marshalls even threatened to strike if I rode.

The message was rammed home when I was refused service in a filling station. After my victory on the senior I was back some respect, and because I overcame appalling wet conditions

to win the Formula One, there was a slightly louder cheer for me at the prizegiving."

Before this year, Read's last competitive island ride was in 1982 when he posted his fastest-ever Mountain Course lap, taking 20min 22.6sec to cover the 33 miles, averaging 111.09mph. A consummate all-round rider, Read is the only racer ever to win world championships in 125, 250 and 500cc classes.

"I would ride any bike I was contracted to ride to the maximum of its and my ability. Road racing is the only thing I ever wanted to do, so I just got on with it with a will to win. Second place is the first loser," Read said.

His latest and last island outing got off to a blistering start, with the Prince of Speed posting the third-fastest time in the first practice session. "A lot of the really fast boys haven't been out yet and my

averages are some way off the pace," he added.

Read was right to be cautious. His Matchless G50 500cc racer, typical of the type of bike he began his career on, presented him and his team with endless problems. He broke down in sight of the finish line on his first lap of Monday evening practice, but with typical panache, took a taxi back to the paddock rather than wait for his team to pick him up once the roads had re-opened.

Read did not feel under pressure to win. All he hoped for was a top 10 finish and a couple of 100mph average laps.

He did not quite get there, but when the flag dropped, he went all out for glory, just like he had done for the last 40 years.

A diary of Phil Read's TT story will appear in *Classic Bike*, published on 23 September.



Phil Read in his racing heyday (main picture) and on the Matchless G50 (above) which he took to 16th place in yesterday's Senior Classic. *Classic Bike*/John Watterson

Drivers query lack of safety car

MOTOR RACING
BY DERICK ALLSOP

A BELGIAN Grand Prix of unsurpassed drama confirmed the improbable emergence of a compelling spectacle and a new force in the sport from depressingly barren beginnings. Damon Hill's victory, a breakthrough for Jordan, eased the fears of Formula One's promoters that the championship would prove a cakewalk for McLaren-Mercedes, but it was the safety of drivers in the appalling conditions at Spa-Francorchamps that dominated thoughts in the aftermath of the race.

Several teams questioned why the race began and was allowed to continue for long periods without a safety car when drivers were racing at high speeds with no visibility.

"You have to question the safety issues," said Benetton's chief executive, Dave Richards, whose drivers, Giancarlo

Fisichella and Alexander Wurz, failed to finish due to accidents.

"Most of the incidents were cars running into the back of each other because they were not visible through the spray. I am just thankful nobody was seriously hurt."

Wurz, who hit McLaren's David Coulthard soon after the restart, believed the original race - when he destroyed his Benetton - should have begun under the safety car. "The first crash was really scary," he said. Fisichella, whose car caught fire after a collision, said the safety car should have been brought out much earlier in the restarted race as the accidents continued.

The Italian was backed up by Hill, who survived a near-miss at the start to score his first win for nearly two years.

"I have concerns about this circuit when it's wet, and when it's dry. It is a very high-speed circuit," said Hill. "All I know is that at times I was going at around 160mph and I could

see nothing in front of my face. The conditions made it very difficult and the safety car issue will have to be looked at."

But Hill would acknowledge that the conditions helped his cause. Mika Hakkinen and McLaren-Mercedes made a commanding start the season and in truth they still have the best car and looked well placed to win after their performance in the dry in practice.

Ferrari, and Michael Schumacher in particular, have managed to challenge them, and gradually a chasing pack

has got close enough to take advantage of any mishap.

However, both the championship protagonists were victims of the mayhem, leaving the door open for the pack. But it was not Benetton, the first of the year's pursuers to capitalise, or Williams, who joined the hunt more recently. It was Jordan and Hill, the team and driver seemingly pedalling backwards in the first half of the season.

They ascendance is one of the stories of this season. Hill's victory, ahead of team-mate Ralf Schumacher, may have been presented by good fortune, but it was made possible by the momentum generated over the previous four grands prix. The car-engine package has been improved beyond recognition and Hill, outgunned by his young partner and stripped of confidence in the earlier races, has rediscovered the pace and rhythm that earned him the championship two years ago, with Williams.

Hill has contended all along he still has it in him to win races and contest another title. He is expected to sign a £3.5m contract with Jordan for next year before the Italian Grand Prix at Monza on Sunday week and is already canvassing support for the team cause.

"We have to make sure we exploit this success. It's going to be difficult to beat the likes of Ferrari and McLaren but that

has to be our objective. Eddie wants more sponsorship so that we have the means to compete with the big guys," he said, praising the work of all who have strived so hard to improve the car and the engine.

Ralf Schumacher was a conspicuously reluctant reveller here, admitting he was not happy to be restrained from racing Hill. He accepted that instruction as professional good sense, but it did nothing to diminish his determination to leave the team and join Williams.

Hill's big brother, Michael, was still less amused after running into the back of David Coulthard's McLaren when his mastery of the wet promised another win and a three-point lead in the championship.

Schumacher's confrontation with Coulthard, accusing the Scot of deliberately slowing and trying to kill him, will serve to further hype the show at Monza - no matter that the stewards threw out Ferrari's protests.

Philosophically, Hill has to put a brave face on it all, blaming both crashes on other drivers and saying: "It's actually been a good day. I made a great, great start in the first race and it's been a great learning experience."

The regulars did more than their best to entertain the crowd, too. Reid won the sprint race at a canter, leading from start to finish in the Nissan, chased by James Thompson in the Honda.

The second, feature, race was much more dramatic. Rydell led from the green lights, chased by Reid and a gang of Renaults and Nissans. From the start Reid harassed Rydell, dodging about and lunging towards the Volvo time and again. Eventually there was contact when Reid hit the back of Rydell's car at the Druids hairpin. This time Rydell came off best, staying ahead while Reid ran wide (he later accused Rydell of deliberately slowing him and forcing him off-line). Reid was

immediately passed by Thompson, Alain Menu and Jason Plato in the second Renault.

Reid embarked on a great comeback drive into second place and closed to within half a second of Rydell. That is how it stayed until the closing stages, when Reid mounted an attack at Druids. This time it was Rydell who came off worst and Reid moved into a lead he held to the flag. After the race officials deemed Reid to have gained an unfair advantage, penalised him by two seconds and awarded the race to Rydell.

Before that happened, the normally-placid Rydell had leapt from his Volvo, marched over to Reid and grabbed him. "I was not very happy. There's a lot of adrenaline flowing and I had to tell him what I thought," said the Swede, whose championship lead is looking vulnerable in the face of Reid's late-season push. Menu is still in touch in third place.

Results, Digest, page 21

IOC tries to placate Spain in testing row

DRUGS IN SPORT

THE INTERNATIONAL Olympic Committee backed away from controversial comments by the chairman of their medical commission, Prince Alexandre de Merode, by saying yesterday that the "progress in Spanish sport has nothing to do with doping".

The IOC made the statement in a press release following a meeting on Sunday between the IOC and Spanish sports officials to clear the air over de Merode's comments that Spain had been lax in its approach to doping.

An incensed Spanish Olympic Committee had been calling for de Merode's resig-

nation ever since he said in an interview that "in Spain, there has for a long time been a tendency towards doping".

The explanation, however, failed to satisfy Spanish sports officials, prompting Samanich to arrange a meeting to defuse the controversy. After the IOC pointed out that a large number of doping tests had been carried out in Spain - 7,000 in 1997 and 5,000 so far this year

total sales including instore and Wednesday Draw: £54,949,980. Prize Fund: £24,727,491 (45% of ticket sales).

Total Sales: £54,949,980. Prize Fund: £24,727,491 (45% of ticket sales).

Total Sales including instore and Wednesday Draw: £54,949,980. Prize Fund: £24,727,491 (45% of ticket sales).

Total Sales including instore and Wednesday Draw: £54,949,980. Prize Fund: £24,727,491 (45% of ticket sales).

Total Sales including instore and Wednesday Draw: £54,949,980. Prize Fund: £24,727,491 (45% of ticket sales).

Total Sales including instore and Wednesday Draw: £54,949,980. Prize Fund: £24,727,491 (45% of ticket sales).

Total Sales including instore and Wednesday Draw: £54,949,980. Prize Fund: £24,727,491 (45% of ticket sales).

Total Sales including instore and Wednesday Draw: £54,949,980. Prize Fund: £24,727,491 (45% of ticket sales).

Total Sales including instore and Wednesday Draw: £54,949,980. Prize Fund: £24,727,491 (45% of ticket sales).

Total Sales including instore and Wednesday Draw: £54,949,980. Prize Fund: £24,727,491 (45% of ticket sales).

Total Sales including instore and Wednesday Draw: £54,949,980. Prize Fund: £24,727,491 (45% of ticket sales).

Total Sales including instore and Wednesday Draw: £54,949,980. Prize Fund: £24,727,491 (45% of ticket sales).

Total Sales including instore and Wednesday Draw: £54,949,980. Prize Fund: £24,727,491 (45% of ticket sales).

Total Sales including instore and Wednesday Draw: £54,949,980. Prize Fund: £24,727,491 (45% of ticket sales).

Total Sales including instore and Wednesday Draw: £54,949,980. Prize Fund: £24,727,491 (45% of ticket sales).

Total Sales including instore and Wednesday Draw: £54,949,980. Prize Fund: £24,727,491 (45% of ticket sales).

Odd ending to Nautical tale

BY GREG WOOD

IT IS only a few days since the man leading the race for the amateur riders' championship was unmasked as a former professional jockey from America, but anyone on the lookout for a "ringer" at Epsom yesterday would have been disappointed. The biggest race of the amateurs' year, the Moot & Chandon Silver Magnum, was its usual blend of overexcitement and inexperience, and while a few punters will have been congratulating themselves after backing the winner, Nautical Star at 14-1, baffle-

ment was a more widespread emotion.

Take, for instance, the ride which Michael Rosport gave to Night City, the second-favourite at 100-30. Rosport's low-slung posture in the saddle is vaguely reminiscent of Lester Piggott, but when it came to the more important matter of judging the pace, he turned out to have as much class as Leicester Square. Night City set off at roughly the same rate as the five-furlong sprinters who were trying to break the world speed record half an hour earlier, and was utterly exhausted with half of the 12 furlongs still to run.

ANTE-POST ACTION

STANLEY LEISURE SPRINT CUP (6F)					
Horse (Trainer)	Corse	Win Min	Ladbrokes	Stanley	Total
Ehsanah (J Durcop)	100-30	7-2	5-2	7-2	7-2
Lochangel (R Channon)	4-1	9-2	9-2	4-1	4-1
Tannerick (R Channon)	5-1	6-1	5-1	5-1	6-1
Artisan (Herr E. Curnow)	5-1	6-1	5-1	11-2	5-1
Tombie (P McLean)	5-1	7-1	10-1	5-1	5-1
Grade (S M Prescott)	8-1	7-1	13-1	8-1	8-1
Land Of Dreams (M Johnson)	12-1	10-1	12-1	10-1	10-1
Bebelot (J Berry)	12-1	10-1	14-1	12-1	12-1
Blancor (A P Channon, M)	14-1	15-1	16-1	12-1	12-1
Andriover (R Hanlon)	14-1	12-1	14-1	20-1	20-1
Eastern Purple (R Falvey)	20-1	10-1	20-1	25-1	25-1
Superior Premium (R Falvey)	20-1	10-1	20-1	25-1	25-1
Croeso (N Littledale)	33-1	33-1	33-1	40-1	25-1
Daunting Lady (R Hanlon)	65-1	50-1	50-1	50-1	33-1
Tadco (M Johnston)	65-1	40-1	50-1	65-1	50-1
Yorkies Boy (B McLean)	65-1	65-1	50-1	65-1	40-1

Each way 5/6 the odds; places 1, 2, 3 (Medoc, Saturday)



El Nadim, favourite to redeem his reputation in Saturday's Stanley Leisure Sprint Cup at Haydock

Phil Smith

Then there was the reluctance of the Epsom stewards to inquire into the use of the whip by Patrick Palibes, a French doctor, on the eventual winner, not least because he seemed to smack Opera Buff, his only challenger through the final quarter mile, squarely on the nose just under two furlongs from home. An unfortunate accident it may have been, but if Palibes' stick did indeed make contact, it is hardly surprising that Opera Buff then proved very reluctant to quicken when asked to overtake him.

That aside, Palibes was also wallowing Naval Star with the sort of Gallic gusto which no one bothers about on the other side of the Channel, but would normally earn a British jockey an instant suspension. Futilis though an inquiry would ultimately have been – a few days off is not much of a penalty for a non-professional rider – this was just the sort of inconsistency which drives people mad. Palibes enjoyed the greatest moment of the life in the saddle, but it was *Nautical Star* that appeared to pay the price.

A more stirring spectacle was the sprint handicap, in which Repertory failed by just 15 hundredths of a second to lower the track record and claim the unofficial title of the world's fastest horse. Had he been drawn in stall 12, on the

rails, rather than number four, he might well have done so, but it took a vital moment or two for Russell Price, his jockey, to

RICHARD EDMONDSON
Nap: Builder Boy
(Uttoxeter 2.45)
NB: Wina's Pride
(Uttoxeter 4.15)

tack across to the rail, and the £50,000 bonus on offer for a new record remained unclaimed.

At Ripon, meanwhile, there was a first Listed race victory for Chris Fairhurst, whose Boldly Goes beat horses trained by Paul Cole and Jack Berry to win the Two-Year-Old Trophy.

This race has helped to highlight some very useful horses, not least a year ago when Arkadian Hero beat Land Of Dreams. Both of those have made up into excellent sprinters this year, and both will line up with every chance

for the Group One Stanley Leisure Sprint at Haydock this Saturday.

The favourite with the sponsors, though, is El Nadim, the July Cup winner, who ran deplorably behind Lochangel, another probable runner on Saturday, in the Nunthorpe Stakes at York's Ebor meeting. A return to six furlongs could coax El Nadim back to his best form, but he looks a very short price for a horse who disappointed so badly last time out.

Jockey's horrific fall

THE AMATEUR rider Nathan Rossiter was last night reported to have regained consciousness after a fall from Hesver Golf Charmer in the opening hurdle race at Pontefract which had knocked him out for several hours.

Rossiter, 25, who has had only about a dozen rides and no winners in the last three seasons, lay on the turf after his

mount fell at the second-last flight in the race won by Auburn Boy. He was taken away by ambulance to the intensive care unit of St Richards Hospital, Chichester.

A spokesman for the hospital said: "He was brought in unconscious and has had CT (computerised tomography) scans on his head and abdomen."

RIPON

HYPERION

2.30 Roemoor Girl 4.30 Rolling Rio
3.00 Hugwity (nb) 5.00 Equerry
3.30 Perugino Bay 5.30 Amiange
4.00 TRAILBLAZER (nap)

GOING: Good to firm

STALLS: Straight & 2m – stands side, round course – inwards

DRAW ADVANTAGE: None

Right-hand course, a sharp track with light banks.

WEATHER: 17-18°C, 80% RH, 10-12mph, 10% chance of rain on Sunday

ADMISSION: Club £14; Tattersalls £9; Silver Ring £4; Course C3 (recommended under-18s free of enclosure), CAR PARK: Car and up to four occupants in course enclosure £10; remainder free.

LEADING TRAINERS: M Johnson from 233 runners (18.7%), T Easterby 15-15

J. Berry 15-15 (11.4%), L Curzon 12-16 (21.6%).

LEADING JOCKEYS: K Darley 4 wins from 167 rides (2.4%), J Weaver 25-129 (15.4%), J. Williams 17-188 (10.2%), J Fortune 11-118 (6.6%)

FAVOURITES: K Darley 4 wins from 167 rides (2.4%), J Fortune 11 wins from 160 (7.0%).

BLUNKERED FIRST TIME: Oriel Star (230), Rich Domination (430), Rich Explorer (530), Rich High (weaned, 400).

BETTING: 7-8 Dene, 9-10 Oriel Star, 11-12 Roemoor Girl, 10-11 Huchies, Bayford Green, 12-12 Balcombe Chiffon, First Mistress, 15-16 others

1997: 7-8 James Dee, 9-10 Oriel Star, 11-12 Roemoor Girl, 10-11 Huchies, Bayford Green, 12-12 Balcombe Chiffon, First Mistress, 15-16 others

FORM GUIDE

Hugwity: Flat handicaps, second in a claiming race at Sleaford in July and won a handicap at Uttoxeter in August. Last start at Uttoxeter. Rides mainly on the all-weather. Winless.

Winless: Came back to form after dropping 22lb in the handicap when second at Thirsk last time, but has not won for two years and looks one to oppose.

Genuine John: Successive three times runner-up, he failed to attract a bid after beatng Genuine Oliver. Gymkhana: Over 1000 starts, did not do well in debut at Uttoxeter. Still in training after a year off, and has won 10 of his last 12 starts.

Land Of Dreams: A 2-year-old gelding who has won 10 of his last 12 starts and is now in form.

Rolling Rio: Unraced colt, won 10 of his last 12 starts and is now in form.

Hyperion: Unraced colt, won 10 of his last 12 starts and is now in form.

Amiange: Unraced gelding, won 10 of his last 12 starts and is now in form.

Equerry: Unraced gelding, won 10 of his last 12 starts and is now in form.

Trailing Blazer: Unraced gelding, won 10 of his last 12 starts and is now in form.

Hyperion: Unraced gelding, won 10 of his last 12 starts and is now in form.

Roemoor Girl: Unraced gelding, won 10 of his last 12 starts and is now in form.

Roemoor Girl: Unraced gelding, won 10 of his last 12 starts and is now in form.

Roemoor Girl: Unraced gelding, won 10 of his last 12 starts and is now in form.

Roemoor Girl: Unraced gelding, won 10 of his last 12 starts and is now in form.

Roemoor Girl: Unraced gelding, won 10 of his last 12 starts and is now in form.

Roemoor Girl: Unraced gelding, won 10 of his last 12 starts and is now in form.

Roemoor Girl: Unraced gelding, won 10 of his last 12 starts and is now in form.

Roemoor Girl: Unraced gelding, won 10 of his last 12 starts and is now in form.

Roemoor Girl: Unraced gelding, won 10 of his last 12 starts and is now in form.

Roemoor Girl: Unraced gelding, won 10 of his last 12 starts and is now in form.

Roemoor Girl: Unraced gelding, won 10 of his last 12 starts and is now in form.

Roemoor Girl: Unraced gelding, won 10 of his last 12 starts and is now in form.

Roemoor Girl: Unraced gelding, won 10 of his last 12 starts and is now in form.

Roemoor Girl: Unraced gelding, won 10 of his last 12 starts and is now in form.

Roemoor Girl: Unraced gelding, won 10 of his last 12 starts and is now in form.

Roemoor Girl: Unraced gelding, won 10 of his last 12 starts and is now in form.

Roemoor Girl: Unraced gelding, won 10 of his last 12 starts and is now in form.

Roemoor Girl: Unraced gelding, won 10 of his last 12 starts and is now in form.

Roemoor Girl: Unraced gelding, won 10 of his last 12 starts and is now in form.

Roemoor Girl: Unraced gelding, won 10 of his last 12 starts and is now in form.

Roemoor Girl: Unraced gelding, won 10 of his last 12 starts and is now in form.

Roemoor Girl: Unraced gelding, won 10 of his last 12 starts and is now in form.

Roemoor Girl: Unraced gelding, won 10 of his last 12 starts and is now in form.

Roemoor Girl: Unraced gelding, won 10 of his last 12 starts and is now in form.

Roemoor Girl: Unraced gelding, won 10 of his last 12 starts and is now in form.

Roemoor Girl: Unraced gelding, won 10 of his last 12 starts and is now in form.

Roemoor Girl: Unraced gelding, won 10 of his last 12 starts and is now in form.

Roemoor Girl: Unraced gelding, won 10 of his last 12 starts and is now in form.

Roemoor Girl: Unraced gelding, won 10 of his last 12 starts and is now in form.

Roemoor Girl: Unraced gelding, won 10 of his last 12 starts and is now in form.

Roemoor Girl: Unraced gelding, won 10 of his last 12 starts and is now in form.

Roemoor Girl: Unraced gelding, won 10 of his last 12 starts and is now in form.

Roemoor Girl: Unraced gelding, won 10 of his last 12 starts and is now in form.

Roemoor Girl: Unraced gelding, won 10 of his last 12 starts and is now in form.

Roemoor Girl: Unraced gelding, won 10 of his last 12 starts and is now in form.

Roemoor Girl: Unraced gelding, won 10 of his last 12 starts and is now in form.

Roemoor Girl: Unraced gelding, won 10 of his last 12 starts and is now in form.

Roemoor Girl: Unraced gelding, won 10 of his last 12 starts and is now in form.

Roemoor Girl: Unraced gelding, won 10 of his last 12 starts and is now in form.

Roemoor Girl: Unraced gelding, won 10 of his last 12 starts and is now in form.

Roemoor Girl: Unraced gelding, won 10 of his last 12 starts and is now in form.

Roemoor Girl: Unraced gelding, won 10 of his last 12 starts and is now in form.

Roemoor Girl: Unraced gelding, won 10 of his last 12 starts and is now in form.

Roemoor Girl: Unraced gelding, won 10 of his last 12 starts and is now in form.

Roemoor Girl: Unraced gelding, won 10 of his last 12 starts and is now in form.

Roemoor Girl: Unraced gelding, won 10 of his last 12 starts and is now in form.

Roemo

Survival of fittest awaits Ashes squad

BY DEREK PRINGLE

ACCORDING TO the spin doctors of their tourist board, Australia is a pleasant country of barbecues, beaches and cuddly koalas. For the 17 members of England's cricket team announced this morning at Lord's the reality will be quite different and several months of hardship await, particularly if Shane Warne is fit enough to do some spinning of his own.

Bar the brutal West Indies tour of the 1980s, an Ashes tour Down Under is the toughest of them all. This winter England face four months of hard grounds, hard travelling and even harder opposition. Win or lose, it will be an endurance

test that will stretch and strain both body and will.

For that reason England need players of uncompromising attitude. There is, as the coach David Lloyd has already pointed out, no room for "iffy characters". Because this tour does not have a lengthy acclimatisation period - only three first-class matches before the first two Tests, which are back to back and 2,000 miles apart - England must identify their most likely 11 in time for the tour opener in Perth on 31 October.

Providing Graham Thorpe has fully recovered from the operation to remove a cyst from his back the top-six batsmen pick themselves, though Mark Ramprakash will have come under recent pressure.

As the tour is long, England are planning to take a reserve wicket-keeper rather than a makeshift. This means only one spare batting place remains. Barring a volte-face from the selectors and the inclusion of Nick Knight the berth, at least on the evidence of this Test, will probably go to John Crawley rather than Graeme Hick, despite the former's open distaste of touring.

The plight of Hick, who averaged almost 42 on the last tour of Australia, is a difficult one. As a player, Hick's supporters and detractors virtually cancel each other out. If the selectors want Hick perhaps it should be at the expense of Ramprakash, whose batting since his marvellous century in

Barbados is once more tending towards inertia.

Alec Stewart's understudy as wicketkeeper will fall to either Lancashire's Warren Hepple or Paul Nixon of Leicestershire. Due to the tenacity of Jack Russell both have been in the background a long time, though Hepple did tour Australia with the England A team a few winters back. However, as the pair are capable batsmen it is not inconceivable at some stage, especially if England gamble on starting with Ben Hollioake as the all-rounder, that Stewart could relinquish the gloves and bat the keeper at No 7.

Given that it is the selectors' intention to take a young bowler as 17th man - a position that will prob-

ably fall to Surrey's Alex Tudor rather than Durham's Stephen Harrison - only one of the five pace bowling places requires argument.

Notwithstanding injury and, providing they play a spinner, England's starting line-up will be permited from Darren Gough, Angus Fraser, Dominic Cork and Alan Mullally - which leaves Dean Headley, Ed Giddins or the perennially unfashionable Andy Caddick in reserve.

Headley, who bowled well in Australia on a recent A tour, is probably favourite, while Caddick troubled the Australian run-machine, Steve Waugh, more than anyone last summer with his high action.

Partnering Robert Croft with another spinner is not nearly so

straightforward. In the wake of Ian Salisbury's timid performances in the last three Tests, it looks as if Phil Tufnell, a disappointment since the Oval Test last year, will be selected by default. Australia, too, have a dearth of quality spinners, though not as serious a shortage as England, who have 12 more first-class sides.

If Tufnell does go, he will be able to resort so easily to his favoured defensive measure of bowling over the wicket into the rough outside the right-hander's leg stump. The ICC have brought in a new regulation, giving the umpires power to call wide in such circumstances, and if England plan to use their spinners mainly as a defensive measure, they may be better off tak-

ing the more level-headed but less talented Ashley Giles.

With no cross-fertilisation between the Ashes and the other main squad - the one-day party to Bangladesh and the A team tour to Zimbabwe and South Africa - a lot of names are due to be announced at Lord's this morning. Presumably that is one of the reasons why the England and Wales Cricket Board employ Simon Pack, a former Nato commander to organise and deploy them. That and his ability to call up a gunboat or two, should the colonials prove too frisky.

PROTEST AGAINST PARTIES: A.J. Stewart (left), M. Atherton, M. Maynard, N. Muralitharan, G.P. Thorpe, M. R. Ramprakash, J.P. Crowley, W. Hepple, R.D. Croft, P.C.R. Tufnell, B.C. Hollioake, D.G. Croft, D. Gough, A.D. Mullally, A.R. Fraser, R.A. Caddick. J. Tudor.

Lloyd insult just adds to the injury

DAVID LLOYD, the England coach, has shown yet again that he is a dreadful loser. When Muttiah Muralitharan took the first two England wickets on Sunday evening and turned the ball a long way, it was clear that there was every chance that he would win this Test match.

At the press conference at the end of the fourth day Lloyd made a thinly veiled accusation about the legality of Muralitharan's action. He had put the excuse in place in case England lost and it was all done so graciously that it took one back to Bulawayo in Zimbabwe before Christmas in 1996.

England had failed to win the first Test and then at the end the scores were level and England had wickets in hand. Lloyd's catchphrase then was: "We murdered 'em", which he shouted, sometimes with the minimum of charm, at anyone he encountered immediately after the game was over.

He appears to be unable to control himself when England are on the receiving end of it. His remarks now have forced the Sri Lankan board to issue a statement that it has complained to the ECB. Thilanga Sumathipala, the president of the Sri Lankan board, who made the statement, reiterated that Muralitharan's action has been cleared after a close examination by the ICC. It is a matter of fact that he has a double-jointed wrist and that there is an 11 degree deformity in his right elbow, which he can not straighten.

In the circumstances, Lloyd has let himself and the England team down by not being able to control himself. How much better it would have been for him to have com-

plained quietly through the official channels. Instead of which he has drawn attention to himself and the side and he has been seen to have acted as a crybaby. One finds it hard to believe that, in these days of super slow-motion cameras, the ICC has not reached the right decision about Muralitharan's action.

After Sri Lanka's complaint, the ECB will surely have to take action over Lloyd's outburst. He received a substantial slap on the wrist after the Zimbabwean affair and the authorities will now have to decide between a yellow and a red card.

One undoubtedly side effect, judging from the response that has apparently come over from this Australia, is that the incident will be exploited to the full during the England tour. Lloyd will realise then that he has made a rod for his own back and, sadly, one for the side's as well. Why does he not think before launching into these outbursts, which can only be counterproductive?

HENRY BLOFELD
AT THE OVAL



Muttiah Muralitharan bowls to England's Darren Gough at The Oval yesterday

David Ashdown

Newell replies in the positive

BY JOHN COLLIS
at Hove

Sussex 313-8 v Glamorgan

APRIL A shakyprelude, Sussex staged a revival yesterday thanks to two bit-part players in this season's Championship cast. Both Keith Newell and Jason Rae played in the early games before being consigned to the second XI and they have only recently returned to the fray.

In the first hour, Owen Parkin and Andrew Davies, found fire and movement in a greenish wicket, reducing the home side to 20 for 3 before the Sussex captain, Chris Adams, orchestrated a recovery. As the early juice burned out of the grass he began to punch the ball up and down the Hove hill.

But respect suddenly ceased just before lunch when Rae called his captain for a tight sin-

gle, changed his mind and scuttled back to safety. Adams, perhaps assuming that Rae would do the decent thing, charged onwards. Rae then forged the 97-run partnership with Newell that cemented Sussex's recovery. It was ended by Davies, who found Rae's inside edge with his second ball. But Newell still had work to do and formed a new alliance with the tall all-rounder, Robin Martin-Jenkins.

Matthew Maynard's tactic of mostly sticking with his pace quartet of Parkin, Davies, Dale and Darren Thomas was beginning to resemble a one-time orchestra when Dale held one back and Newell looped the ball to extra cover.

Eleven fours and a brace of sixes confirmed Newell's positive attitude to both his and his team's recovery, a process that was confirmed by Martin-Jenkins, who notched a career-best score before falling in the final over.

Muttiah 'very proud'

MUTTIAH MURALITHARAN was not surprised by his achievement after twice wrecking England's batting to set up the 10-wicket victory for Sri Lanka at The Oval.

The feats of the Surrey finger-spinner Saqlain Mushtaq on his home ground this season had already convinced Muralitharan that there would be plenty of wickets for him, too. "I thought beforehand when Saqlain was taking a lot of wickets here it would help me as well. I am very proud. Before I came here my ambition was to take five wickets in an innings in a Test match - so I thought I did quite well here," he said.

The off-spinner's captain Arjuna Ranatunga and his oppo-

nite number, Alec Stewart, hailed Muralitharan's outstanding performance.

"He is very difficult to play. You can never get on top of him. A lot of spinners you can use your feet or work around - but he is something special," said Stewart - the only England player not to lose his wicket to Muralitharan in the Test.

Muralitharan, however, was merely confirming his captain's expectations. "Murali is the main man. I have always rated him very, very highly and still think he is the best off-spinner in the world. We know he can spin it anywhere in the world, but he was really impressive in the way he was turning it," Ranatunga said.

Hollooake to resume control

SURREY WILL be led by Adam Hollioake against Yorkshire at Headington today. While he was on England one-day duty when Mark Butcher was captain when they beat Nottinghamshire, the Championship leaders also welcome back their England quartet of Butcher, Stewart, Lee Hollioake and Ian Salisbury.

Yorkshire include the 20-year-old Gary Fellows in their squad. Fellows, a product of the club's Academy, is included along with Craig White, who returns to the four-day squad

for the first time since June, since when he has been out of action with an injury to his lower back. He is likely to play just as a batsman.

Leicestershire will wait on the return of John Crawley from The Oval before finalising their team against Derbyshire at Old Trafford. Mike Atherton could return, providing he does not suffer any further back problems, and Ian Austin and Peter Maynard are definitely back after missing the last game at Durham on England duty.

Gloucestershire are expected to keep the team beaten by Somerset on Sunday for their game against Northamptonshire at Bristol. They have included wicketkeeper Richard Williams with the possibility that he could play as a batsman.

Chris Lewis - dropped for the last Championship game against Nottinghamshire - is set to return for Leicestershire against Warwickshire at Edgbaston but probably not as captain. Phil Simmons is in line to continue in the role.

Gloucestershire are expected to keep the team beaten by Somerset on Sunday for their game against Northamptonshire at Bristol. They have included wicketkeeper Richard Williams with the possibility that he could play as a batsman.

CRICKET SCOREBOARD

Britannic Assurance

Championship

Hampshire v Middlesex

SOUTHAMPTON (Day 1 of 4): Middlesex (3 pts) have scored 313 for 5 wickets against Hampshire (2 pts)

Hampshire won first

WINDLESFORD — First Innings

Race 6-45 56-56

D.J. Goodchild lbw b James.....16 0 2 57 70

R.A. Kercleborough c Ayrem b James.....60 0 7 158 183

A.J. Strauss c Kendall b McLean.....83 0 14 160 193

M.W. Gazzard c Keech b Maclean.....77 0 12 106 160

P.N. Weeks c Ayrem b Hartley.....17 0 2 39 48

D.F. Clegg b McLean.....123 0

4.001. FILL THE BILL (C. Marshall) 6-4; 2. Orange Order 2-1; 3. Jemm The Light 1-1; 4. 7-17 (J. Marshall); 5. (T. Marshall); 6. 17-17 (J. Marshall); 7. 18-18 (J. Marshall); 8. 19-19 (J. Marshall); 9. 20-20 (J. Marshall); 10. 21-21 (J. Marshall); 11. 22-22 (J. Marshall); 12. 23-23 (J. Marshall); 13. 24-24 (J. Marshall); 14. 25-25 (J. Marshall); 15. 26-26 (J. Marshall); 16. 27-27 (J. Marshall); 17. 28-28 (J. Marshall); 18. 29-29 (J. Marshall); 19. 30-30 (J. Marshall); 20. 31-31 (J. Marshall); 21. 32-32 (J. Marshall); 22. 33-33 (J. Marshall); 23. 34-34 (J. Marshall); 24. 35-35 (J. Marshall); 25. 36-36 (J. Marshall); 26. 37-37 (J. Marshall); 27. 38-38 (J. Marshall); 28. 39-39 (J. Marshall); 29. 40-40 (J. Marshall); 30. 41-41 (J. Marshall); 31. 42-42 (J. Marshall); 32. 43-43 (J. Marshall); 33. 44-44 (J. Marshall); 34. 45-45 (J. Marshall); 35. 46-46 (J. Marshall); 36. 47-47 (J. Marshall); 37. 48-48 (J. Marshall); 38. 49-49 (J. Marshall); 39. 50-50 (J. Marshall); 40. 51-51 (J. Marshall); 41. 52-52 (J. Marshall); 42. 53-53 (J. Marshall); 43. 54-54 (J. Marshall); 44. 55-55 (J. Marshall); 45. 56-56 (J. Marshall); 46. 57-57 (J. Marshall); 47. 58-58 (J. Marshall); 48. 59-59 (J. Marshall); 49. 60-60 (J. Marshall); 50. 61-61 (J. Marshall); 51. 62-62 (J. Marshall); 52. 63-63 (J. Marshall); 53. 64-64 (J. Marshall); 54. 65-65 (J. Marshall); 55. 66-66 (J. Marshall); 56. 67-67 (J. Marshall); 57. 68-68 (J. Marshall); 58. 69-69 (J. Marshall); 59. 70-70 (J. Marshall); 60. 71-71 (J. Marshall); 61. 72-72 (J. Marshall); 62. 73-73 (J. Marshall); 63. 74-74 (J. Marshall); 64. 75-75 (J. Marshall); 65. 76-76 (J. Marshall); 66. 77-77 (J. Marshall); 67. 78-78 (J. Marshall); 68. 79-79 (J. Marshall); 69. 80-80 (J. Marshall); 70. 81-81 (J. Marshall); 71. 82-82 (J. Marshall); 72. 83-83 (J. Marshall); 73. 84-84 (J. Marshall); 74. 85-85 (J. Marshall); 75. 86-86 (J. Marshall); 76. 87-87 (J. Marshall); 77. 88-88 (J. Marshall); 78. 89-89 (J. Marshall); 79. 90-90 (J. Marshall); 80. 91-91 (J. Marshall); 81. 92-92 (J. Marshall); 82. 93-93 (J. Marshall); 83. 94-94 (J. Marshall); 84. 95-95 (J. Marshall); 85. 96-96 (J. Marshall); 86. 97-97 (J. Marshall); 87. 98-98 (J. Marshall); 88. 99-99 (J. Marshall); 89. 100-100 (J. Marshall); 90. 101-101 (J. Marshall); 91. 102-102 (J. Marshall); 92. 103-103 (J. Marshall); 93. 104-104 (J. Marshall); 94. 105-105 (J. Marshall); 95. 106-106 (J. Marshall); 96. 107-107 (J. Marshall); 97. 108-108 (J. Marshall); 98. 109-109 (J. Marshall); 99. 110-110 (J. Marshall); 100. 111-111 (J. Marshall); 101. 112-112 (J. Marshall); 102. 113-113 (J. Marshall); 103. 114-114 (J. Marshall); 104. 115-115 (J. Marshall); 105. 116-116 (J. Marshall); 106. 117-117 (J. Marshall); 107. 118-118 (J. Marshall); 108. 119-119 (J. Marshall); 109. 120-120 (J. Marshall); 110. 121-121 (J. Marshall); 111. 122-122 (J. Marshall); 112. 123-123 (J. Marshall); 113. 124-124 (J. Marshall); 114. 125-125 (J. Marshall); 115. 126-126 (J. Marshall); 116. 127-127 (J. Marshall); 117. 128-128 (J. Marshall); 118. 129-129 (J. Marshall); 119. 130-130 (J. Marshall); 120. 131-131 (J. Marshall); 121. 132-132 (J. Marshall); 122. 133-133 (J. Marshall); 123. 134-134 (J. Marshall); 124. 135-135 (J. Marshall); 125. 136-136 (J. Marshall); 126. 137-137 (J. Marshall); 127. 138-138 (J. Marshall); 128. 139-139 (J. Marshall); 129. 140-140 (J. Marshall); 130. 141-141 (J. Marshall); 131. 142-142 (J. Marshall); 132. 143-143 (J. Marshall); 133. 144-144 (J. Marshall); 134. 145-145 (J. Marshall); 135. 146-146 (J. Marshall); 136. 147-147 (J. Marshall); 137. 148-148 (J. Marshall); 138. 149-149 (J. Marshall); 139. 150-150 (J. Marshall); 140. 151-151 (J. Marshall); 141. 152-152 (J. Marshall); 142. 153-153 (J. Marshall); 143. 154-154 (J. Marshall); 144. 155-155 (J. Marshall); 145. 156-156 (J. Marshall); 146. 157-157 (J. Marshall); 147. 158-158 (J. Marshall);

Parlour games strictly limited

Arsenal midfielder drinks at the right time as he dreams of a career to remember. By Norman Fox

RAY PARLOUR reckons that Arsenal's manager, Arsène Wenger (who always gives the impression of having just finished a thesis on something a lot more serious than the merits of a flat back four) is a "great guy, with a great sense of humour".

Well, he would. After all, Wenger has kept him in the team in spite of all Highbury's foreign imports. But Parlour adds that it is Wenger who has also kept him in the reckoning for England, with whom he is training again this week.

The summer has been lonely for Arsenal's once unruly midfield player. Omitted from Glenn Hoddle's World Cup squad, he just watched the games on television "getting involved, but not getting involved, if you see what I mean". In the past when he and Tony Adams used to drink without thought of tomorrow, he would have used Hoddle's rejection as an excuse for excess. This year, mainly, he says, because of Wenger's quiet influence, he simply kept fit and optimistic.

Parlour admits that at times being a senior Arsenal player without an international cap is



Arsenal's Ray Parlour sits out yesterday's England training session at Bisham Abbey because of a leg injury

Kavanagh shatters stubborn Colchester

STOKE CITY stretched their lead at the top of the Second Division to four points with a 1-0 win at Colchester. But Brian Little's side were made to work hard to maintain their 100 per cent record as the Essex side refused to concede anything in defence.

Colchester's hopes were dashed when Graham Kavanagh scored Stoke's winner 12 minutes from full-time.

Fulham are in second place after a 1-1 draw at Oldham. Paul Moody gave Kevin Keegan's side the 50th-minute lead, but Mark Allott equalised for the struggling hosts.

There was plenty of drama at Deepdale, where Preston moved into third place with a 2-0 win over Chesterfield. But the celebrations after goals from Jason Harris (66) and Ryan Kidd (84) were cut short by the sendings-off of Sean Gregan for Preston and Jason Lee for the visitors - both for two bookable offences.

Wycombe Wanderers, struggling at the foot of the table, were grateful for a last-minute equaliser from Danny Bulman after Barry Hayles' 84th-minute goal had appeared to give Bristol Rovers their first away win of the campaign.

Bulman's strike was enough to win the Adams Park club a point after they had lost all four opening matches.

Luton were indebted to Steve Davis for a 3-1 win at Wigan. The defender cleared a Stuart Barlow shot from his own goal line and scored Luton's opener three minutes before the break.

Barlow, the former Everton striker, netted a 62nd-minute equaliser, but two goals in two minutes from Shaun Evers and veteran Phil Gray ensured victory.

Macclesfield continue to struggle at the foot of the table. Ian Hendon's 30-yard free-kick earned the points for Notts County as Sammy McIlroy's Moss Rose side still search for their first win of the campaign.

The former Chelsea forward Clive Walker became the first man to score 100 League goals and 100 goals in non-League football when he hit Cheltenham Town's opener in the 16th minute of their game against Barrow in the Football Conference yesterday. Cheltenham eventually ran out 4-1 winners.

Rijkaard revealed as the new Dutch national coach

NETHERLANDS

JUST LIKE Ruud Gullit, his former colleague in the great Dutch national team of the 1980s, Frank Rijkaard is this week taking on what may well be the greatest challenge of his career.

While Gullit has the responsibility of restoring the on-field reputation of Newcastle United, Rijkaard has the fortunes of more than just a club side to worry about. Yesterday the former Milan and Ajax midfielder was named as the new coach of the Dutch national team.

It is the 35-year-old Rijkaard's first coaching appointment. Since his retirement from playing in 1995 he has spent more time building up a business trading in ladies' underwear than working in football. He only returned to the game to work as an assistant to his predecessor as national coach, Guus Hiddink (who has moved on to take charge of Real Madrid), at this year's World Cup in France.

Rijkaard will coach the side until the European Championship in 2000 in Belgium and the Netherlands, with an option to extend his contract for another two years. Johan Neeskens, 46, will be his assistant. He was also one of Hiddink's assistants in France, where the team reached the World Cup semi-finals.

Rijkaard and Neeskens have both taken the Dutch Football Association's fast-track coaches' course for former internationals, along with Gullit and Ronald Koeman, who had been another of Hiddink's assistants at the World Cup but is now No 2 at Barcelona. The Dutch FA

is believed to have approached Johan Cruyff and the former Celtic manager, Wim Jansen, before opting for Rijkaard.

SPAIN

BARCELONA MANAGED to sign the former Ajax striker Patrick Kluivert, a summer transfer target for both Arsenal and Manchester United, from Milan before Friday's Spanish League transfer deadline, but they failed to land the two Dutch internationals they have been pursuing all summer.

Louis van Gaal, the former Ajax coach now in charge at Barcelona, has been chasing the De Boer brothers, Frank and Ronald, but has been unable to persuade the Amsterdam club to release them from their long-term contracts.

However, it may not be long before the brothers join the Catalan side. There is a transfer window in the Spanish season in December, and on Sunday Frank de Boer said: "There are two possible solutions. Either we play with Ajax until December and then go to Barcelona, or we stay at Ajax the whole season and then

start next year with Barcelona. It's just a matter of time."

BRAZIL

THE VETERAN striker Romario is not having a happy season. His miserable run of form continued when he missed an easy chance during Flamengo's 1-1 draw with their bitter rivals, Vasco da Gama, in a Brazilian league fixture on Sunday and was jeered off the pitch for the third match running.

Romario fired the ball straight at Vasco's goalkeeper Carlos Germano from point-blank range in the 83rd minute, missing a golden opportunity to give his struggling side a win over Vasco. Last weekend he missed a penalty, and on Wednesday he was also booted off after another poor performance.

"I would have jeered as well, because I didn't play well," Romario admitted prior to Sunday's game. He denied that he was about to retire, though, and insisted he intends to play for another four years. "I feel like a wounded lion, but the claws are still sharp and they will appear again," the injury-prone 32-year-old said.

With McCoist's former Ibrox colleague Gordon Durie ruled out because of ankle ligament

damage, McCoist has few rivals in attack.

Brown rates the Lithuanians highly, suggesting they are the best of the Baltic states, and, by his own admission, McCoist could prove the "quick fix" he needs to do the job required. Brown followed the inclusion of McCoist with a further change yesterday, this time forced upon him because of injuries.

Blackburn's Billy McKinlay and David Hopkin, of Leeds, have withdrawn from the travelling group because of fitness problems. That has prompted Brown to promote Rangers 20-year-old midfielder Barry Ferguson to the Under-21 squad.

Ferguson was instrumental in Rangers' emphatic 4-0 win against St Johnstone on Saturday. Brown said: "Barry was very close to being selected in the original squad, although I didn't think he would start the game as we had experienced provision in McKinlay and Hopkin."

"The Under-21 team have a difficult game and obviously want to qualify, so their coach, Tommy Craig, will be tearing his hair out at losing Barry."

GUSTAVO Di Lella dispatched Hull to their third defeat of the season with the only goal of the match at Hartlepool, sending the home side into fifth place.

Barnet jumped 11 places after their 2-0 victory at Shrewsbury. Goals from Billy Manuel and Ken Charley lifted the club off the foot of the table. Scunthorpe moved up to sixth after defeating Swansea at Wethersfield. Julian Alsop had set up the home side for only their second win of the season but late goals from John Eyns (penalty) and Jamie Forrester turned the table.

Brighton moved into the top half of the table thanks to their regular goalscorers Jeff Minton and Gary Hart, who also scored on Saturday. Wayne Bullimore struck an 89th minute goal for Scarborough but it was too late.

Jimmy Quinn struck twice in two minutes in the first half for Peterborough to set up a 4-1 win over Exeter, who had taken the lead through Darren Rowbotham in the 19th minute at London Road. Leon McKenzie and Andy Edwards added the icing. Darlington notched their first home win of the season in the 3-0 win over Cardiff. Darren Roberts scored twice and Jason De Vos sealed the points.

Platt sets the right example

AROUND THE WORLD

BY RUPERT METCALF

extend his contract for another two years. Johan Neeskens, 46, will be his assistant. He was also one of Hiddink's assistants in France, where the team reached the World Cup semi-finals.

Rijkaard and Neeskens have both taken the Dutch Football Association's fast-track coaches' course for former internationals, along with Gullit and Ronald Koeman, who had been another of Hiddink's assistants at the World Cup but is now No 2 at Barcelona. The Dutch FA

Lowes rises above the rest

RUGBY LEAGUE

BY DAVE HADFIELD

Bradford 24
Castleford 8

THE PRESSURE is largely off Bradford when it comes to qualifying for the top five play-off, but yesterday they looked well short of the form required to retain their Super League title in labourious victory.

The ridiculously early kick-off time, to suit television, saw this contest billed as "High Noon," but it rarely rose above a low standard, with the Bradford hooker, James Lowes, the one notable exception.

It was Lowes' break, so typical of much of his best work last season, that set up Stuart Spruce's try in the eighth minute. That, along with three Steve McNamara goals, gave the Bulls the perfect start and, had they been anything like

their old selves, they would have made short work of a moderate Castleford side.

Even with their latest reinforcement, Harvey Howard, in their line-up, however Bradford made hard work of what should have been a routine win.

Castleford's handling was deplorable in the early stages, but they were allowed to settle into the game and a modicum of grit and determination were sufficient to bring them right back into contention.

A penalty from Danny Orr got them moving and then Spruce and John Scales both failed to clear Mike Ford's kick and Orr arrived to claim a try, which he converted himself to bring Cas within two points.

A penalty against Dean Sampson, for holding down Bernard Dwyer, gave McNamara his 600th point for the club, but Castleford had their chances early in the second half to stretch Bradford

out wide and to wipe out their lead. They also firmed up their defence sufficiently to keep the Bulls' attacking incursions, particularly from the lively Tevita Valkona, at bay. For 25 minutes, the match was there to be won.

But then another McNamara penalty, this time awarded against Lee Harland for holding on to Spruce, stretched Bradford's lead and a mistake by Michael Smith enabled the Bulls to draw clear for what was ultimately a fluttering win.

When Smith tried to pass out of the tackle, Lowes picked up the loose ball and Graeme Bradley's pass sent Scales crashing over in the corner, McNamara this time missing the target with his conversion attempt.

With six minutes to play, Lowes produced another reprise of the repertoire that

brought Bradford so many points during their unstoppable march last year. Apparently held near the line, the hooker wrestled his way out of the tackle and forced his way over McNamara's sixth goal completing the scoring.

The win puts Bradford four points ahead of London and Sheffield in fifth place and only a major disaster can stop them qualifying for the play-offs now.

It will take a far more convincing performance than this to take them any further, though, and Matthew Elliott, their coach, will know that there is much work to be done at Odsal if they are to have any chance of hanging on to their crown.

Bradford: Spruce, McNamara, Bradley, Orr, Dwyer, Paul Danson, McDonald, Lowes, Harmon, Forsyth, Dore, McNamara. Substitutes: used: Fielden, Howarth, Doherty, Ellington, Ellington, Clegg, Clegg, Clegg, Muller, Malone, Wells, Orr, Ford, Sampson, Russell, McNeil, Harland, Smith, Vowles, Schubert, Burgess, Chapman, Scott, Sykes, Flowers. Referee: S Cummings (Wales).

Referee: S Cummings (Wales).

Peters wins Ultra title

SAILING

BY STUART ALEXANDER

WTE A race to spare, Russell Peters won the 1998 Ultra 30 Grand Prix circuit in Guernsey yesterday. Only two people have won the Ultra series in its nine-year history, Lawrie Smith having taken all the other titles except in 1995, when Peters pipped him for the only time.

This year there have been only three regattas, the others at Portsmouth and Cardiff, and Smith has been absent, sojourning in Ireland after driving Silk Cut in the last Whitbread race.

Peters, a dinghy champion in Fireflies International 14s and team racing, was able to get DBS back in front in a year which has seen the introduction of wire trapezes for all nine of the crew in addition to racks on which to lean out.

"Nine on a wire has really

livened things up," said Peters in St Peter Port yesterday.

"Everyone had sorted out how to sail these difficult boats and this provided a new dimension. Not least, the closing speeds are much faster and quicker thinking is required. It looks spectacular on television, but it's a bit frightening and more difficult for the helmsman."

"It's been a very good year, very nice to win, and we look forward to defending our title next year, when there should be more venues, including at least one abroad," he added.

In second place was Glyn Charles, who captained United Airlines and was vying for the overall lead until the last day, when his chances were blown after a collision with Eddie Warden Owen in Hoya. Charles was disqualified from that race but held on to his silver medal slot in a tie-breaker with Kevin Sproul, who was making a late run in Henri Lloyd.

In an angry broadside against the New Zealand management of the 2000 America's Cup, the International Sailing Federation (ISAF) president Paul Henderson said yesterday: "It has steered the ISAF's resolve with regard to the America's Cup and the fact that they (the AC competitors) must support the broad base of racing sailing by funding the services the ISAF provide."

Henderson is particularly upset by a statement from Team New Zealand's director, Tom Schmackenberg, saying that the America's Cup should charge the ISAF for promoting sailing. The ISAF president feels a confrontation over who runs the sport, as happened in golf, is "fast approaching" and suggests the ISAF might seek to ban competitors from taking part in other events, which includes the demand for about \$65,000 per AC syndicate to be paid to the ISAF, if the issue is not settled.

TUESDAY REVIEW

COMMENT • FEATURES • ARTS • LISTINGS • TELEVISION

It's a disgrace

The vice-consul calls them 'depraved' while tabloids condemn their clubs as 'pornographic'.

Yes, thousands of young Brits on Ibiza are having the time of their lives. By Alister Morgan

The British vice-consul on the Spanish island of Ibiza has resigned - shamed, he says, by the behaviour of young British tourists who go to the island in their thousands to party.

"These degenerates are dragging us through the mud," said 51-year-old Michael Birkett. "These young people are out of control."

Ten years ago Ibiza's heady mix of sun, sex and dance music inspired visiting English promoters to create a comparable experience in the UK, and modern acid-house was born. In 1998 the UK's club industry continues to decline while Ibiza, boasting the biggest and best venues in the world, attracts more hedonists every year - 85 per cent of them British.

Essentially the same nocturnal activities that take place every weekend in towns and cities across Britain are mirrored on Ibiza, but the Spanish island acts like an amplifier, lending the experience a larger-than-life, open-all-hours quality. Ibiza follows its own, uniquely exaggerated programme. In the UK a Saturday night timetable might read as follows: 8pm, eat dinner; 9.30pm, meet for drink; 11pm, hit nightclubs; 4am, get taxi home; sleep until midday.

The Ibiza itinerary requires considerably higher levels of stamina. Midnight, meet for dinner; 12.30am, hit local bars; 2am, go to club; 3am, leave club; 3am, go to daytime club; 2pm, go back to hotel; crash until 10pm.

For thousands of clubbers it's a trip worth saving for (seven-day packages start from £140), and worth sleeping on a mate's floor or on the beach for a couple of weeks. It's a place where fellow believers fill the streets and the weekend never ends. But, of course, for others Ibiza represents Sodom and Gomorrah.

Fiona and Tricia from Hastings are both 17 years old and "Ibiza virgins" (the phrase refers to the fact that it's their first time on the island). "My friends came last year and kept saying that this was the best place in the world," says Tricia. They've pushed their way to the front of the crowd to watch Pete Tong at Café Mambo. The broadcast lasts several hours. They look tired but are still smiling. "This is the best place - the best place in the world!" Fiona agrees with her friend's assessment. "The people here are so friendly, and the clubs are amazing. We've been here two weeks already, so we're making the most of the few days we have left."

Both girls have boyfriends back in Hastings. They give the impression that the boys' absence hasn't exactly spoiled their holiday. "Tricia's snogged twice as many blokes as me," says Fiona. "I'm staying faithful - or at least I'm trying to."

They tell me that they'll be at the infamous Manumission club tonight. Radio 1 are continuing their live broadcasts there. "Watch out for us by the fountains."

That night at Manumission it's impossible to recognise anyone among the 8,000 people inside. With its fire-eaters, escapist and theatrically dressed ravers, Manumission feels more like a festival than a club. Radio 1 press personnel have been in a panic all day. The *Daily Mail* has run a story about two Manumission promoters and their infamous early-morning porn act.

"They [promoters Mike McKay and Claire Davies] perform depraved acts in front of thousands of strangers," the *Mail* reveals. "Radio 1 will broadcast a seven-hour marathon of live music from the club. Many might question whether it is an appropriate use

of licence-payers' money to promote an event whose reputation is founded almost entirely on pornography."

"The *Mail*'s piece was an insidious load of nonsense; they try to hold on to the self-restrained, old-style model of Britain," says the Radio 1 DJ Judge Jules. He's headlining tonight's gig at Manumission. "If they don't change soon, their readership will eventually die out because this generation aren't going to believe that bullshit - their values are meaningless to our generation."

For years Jules was Kiss FM's headline house DJ, before Radio 1 bought him up last year. "It wasn't really a hard decision," he says. "I didn't join Radio 1 at a time when my music was fighting against the grain. They have a wholehearted belief in the importance of dance music and the associated culture, so there was no hesitation whatsoever."

Middle England may disapprove, but in fact the esoteric attraction for most of the British clubbers who flock to Ibiza every summer is familiarity. They know exactly what to expect: English-speaking Spaniards, 24-hour full English breakfast, *The Sun*, copious amounts of alcohol, English DJs, and other Brits.

Even after 10 years, the dance music phenomenon refuses to fade away. The vice-consul may feel shamed by the excesses of sun-drunk youth, but this is now mainstream youth culture. Just to prove it, from broadcasting only about three hours of specialist dance music a week in 1991, Radio 1's current output exceeds 30 hours. And Ibiza is an integral part of the wider youth culture.

Ibiza's increasing popularity persuaded BBC Radio 1 to broadcast live, via ISDN links, from Ibiza for the first time earlier this month. The broadcast ran for three days and nights, featuring more than 35 DJs and live performances. It's not certain how many extra listeners the broadcast attracted, but the venture received energetic criticism from the *Daily Mail*, concerned for the moral safety of the nation's youth. Broadcasting from Ibiza was the logical progression of an ongoing cultural shift, aimed at attracting younger listeners.

As the station's headline DJ, Pete Tong, made his live *Essential Selection* broadcast from Ibiza's Café Mambo, hundreds of young people crowded on to the beach to listen. As the beach stretched away into clear blue sea, the sun beat down on hundreds of dancers.

Tong has been coming to Ibiza for around eight years, and made his first broadcast from the island two years ago. He has been instrumental in persuading Auntie to increase its involvement every year.

"Radio 1 didn't really realise what I did, or the im-



pact the music was able to have, when they hired me in 1991," says Tong, speaking after his beach broadcast. "I'd spent years travelling the country building up a reputation with the crowd. Specialist presenters must have that respect from the core audience, and now Radio 1 has got the best in the field."

"They wanted to re-justify the existence of the station, and reposition it to take risks and attract younger listeners. Three years ago I said, if you want to relate to your audience on that level then you should go on holiday with them and participate in their lives outside of the UK. There's no island in the world like Ibiza. No other place has the same set-up or infrastructure."

Radio 1's rival station, Kiss FM, is also broadcasting from Ibiza, and also hopes to consolidate its position as a credible dance music station. A generation of clubbers has been ostracised, patronised and criticised by sections of society for years; their confidence is not easily won. Radio stations can buy credibility, up to a point, but clubbers know that while Pete Tong and Zoë Ball are both Radio 1 DJs, only one has any kudos in Ibiza's clubland.

As Manumission continues into the early hours of the morning, the ambiguity of Radio 1's position is comically highlighted. In a club famous for its sex shows, a giant screen flashes pornographic images on which Radio 1 has superimposed the message: "Annie Nightingale, LIVE IN THE BACK ROOM". Nightingale is a Radio 1 DJ, but the *Daily Mail* could be forgiven for thinking otherwise.

M.Wilson

INSIDE

Letters	2	Obituaries	6-7	Health	13-15	Radio	21
Leaders	3	Features	8-10	Media	16-17	Games	21
Comment	4-5	Arts	10-12	Listings	19-20	Today's TV	22

MEDIA

With 450MHz, it's not a business tool. It's a weapon.

DELL DIMENSION™ XPS R450 MDT

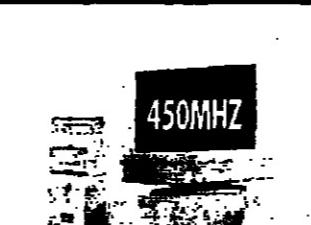
- INTEL® PENTIUM® II PROCESSOR 450MHz
- INTEL® 440BX AGPSET
- 44MB RAM
- 512KB INTERNAL CACHE
- 6.4 GB ATA-33 HARD DRIVE
- ATI XPERT 960 3D AGP VIDEO CARD
- 17" COLOUR TFT SVGA MONITOR (0.28 DOT PITCH, 15.9" VIEWABLE AREA)
- 3 PCI, 1 ISA, 1 PCI/ISA SHARED AND 1 AGP EXPANSION SLOTS
- 14/32 X CD-ROM DRIVE
- INTEGRATED CRYSTAL WAVELET SOUND (SPEAKERS OPTIONAL)
- MID-SIZED DESKTOP CHASSIS
- MICROSOFT® WORKS 4.5 AND MONEY 98
- MICROSOFT® WINDOWS 98

£1,139 £1,338.33 INC. VAT
DOS 3 YEAR BUSINESS LEASE, KEEPSAKE & WARRANTY, £150 DEP.

DELL INSPIRON™ 3200 D266 XT

- MOBILE INTEL® PENTIUM® II PROCESSOR 266MHz
- 13.3" XGA (1024x768) TFT COLOUR DISPLAY
- 48MB SDRAM
- 512KB HIGH PERFORMANCE LEVEL 2 CACHE
- 4.0 GB ATA-33 EIDE HARD DRIVE
- 24 X MODULAR CD-ROM AND 3.5" FLOPPY DISK DRIVES
- INTEGRATED 16-BIT SOUND BLASTER PRO-COMPATIBLE WITH INTERNAL MICROPHONE AND SPEAKERS
- EXTRA HIGH PERFORMANCE 128-BIT PC GRAPHICS CONTROLLER WITH ZOOM VIDEO RAM
- 2 CARDBUS PONCA TYPE II SLOTS
- LITHIUM ION "INTELLIGENT" BATTERY
- TOUCHPAD WITH 2 BUTTONS
- ZOOMED VIDEO SUPPORT
- INFRARED COMMUNICATION PORT (IRDA 1.1 COMPATIBLE)
- USB PORT
- MICROSOFT OFFICE SMALL BUSINESS EDITION (V7.0)

£1,749 £2,055.07 INC. VAT
DOS 3 YEAR BUSINESS LEASE, KEEPSAKE & WARRANTY, £150 DEP.



pentium® II

Dell gives your business a more competitive edge for your budget. With the latest Intel® Pentium® II Processor, this is the fastest Dell Dimension Business PC ever. It's also one of the most powerful and best-equipped. And when you're on the road, we arm you for peak performance with the Dell Inspiron 3200 D266 XT notebook. Check out the specs. Then call the world's largest direct PC manufacturer* or get online to www.dell.com/uk/buydell. And get the weapons you need to win.

TALK DIRECT TO DELL
0870 555 2000
BETWEEN 8AM & 6PM (MON-FRI)
To order online 24 hours:
www.dell.com/uk/buydell
DELL

Dell and the Dell logo are registered trademarks and Dell Dimension and Inspiron are trademarks of Dell Computer Corporation. Microsoft and Windows are registered trademarks and Office 97 is a trademark of the Microsoft Corporation. Service delivery excluded. Dell Financial Services is a trading name of Investors Credit of Canada, 80 St. George Street, Toronto, M5A 1J6. © 1998 Dell Computer Corporation. All rights reserved. Dell Financial Services monthly price is based on an option period of 36 months after which the monthly payment will increase by 10% per annum. The photograph product may not always reflect the specifications as described. Prices quoted refer to specification shown only. The prices listed reflect the information available at the time of going to print. These change frequently. All prices and specifications are subject to change without prior notice or obligation. Microsoft Office Software Reference Books are supplied as CD in Imperial format for Microsoft PCs. Dell Product Support: Telephone Number: 0870 555 2000. Offer available for a limited period only. Dell terms and conditions of sale and service apply. *Delivery of these systems is subject to availability.

JAVIC 150

Stressed at work

Sir: I welcome the proposal to make employers more aware of their responsibilities for the mental, as well as physical, health of their staff. Perhaps your leader writer who said that legislation "is going too far" (31 August) works in one of the few organisations in the UK that promote healthy working practices. Or are they sufficiently senior to off-load their pressures on to subordinates?

As a career counsellor I work with clients coping with career crises, or planning a change. Most of the crises are due to excessive workplace stress and personal life events. If the organisation is lucky they go sick before making a strategic error.

Many of those looking for changes are successful in their current careers. But they have decided that the costs of stress, frustration and excessive working hours to their health and family life are no longer acceptable. Senior managers, lawyers, accountants and teachers make up much of this group. They have earned sufficient savings to be able to afford to change. In many cases they are a serious loss to their organisations.

Most of the UK workforce do not have this option. They soldier on in manic organisations until forced to give up when their health, family or both break down. These consequences cost the country thousands of pounds while the employer simply hires someone else.

Enlightened employers respect working time, set realistic tasks and targets, and recognise that private life events periodically overload the best employee. These healthy organisations achieve higher outputs from well-motivated and respected staff.

But the majority of UK organisations, including government itself, are potentially dangerous to the health and performance of staff. The prevailing US workaholic culture, driven by unachievable targets and control-culture managers is very inefficient. Short term targets are achieved at high cost to lives, families, careers and the state welfare budget.

DAI WILLIAMS

Woking, Surrey

Sir: A poster has recently appeared in the hospital department where I work. Entitled "How to deal with stress" and claiming to have been produced by the Health Promotion Department of Buckinghamshire Health Authority in 1996, it includes useful advice such as: "Don't be too ambitious" (picture of uprity wags clerk dreaming of being an accountant); "Be realistic; don't set too high standards for yourself" (exam student reminding herself that she doesn't need straight As); and "Distract yourself" (smiling man with closed eyes listening to a hi-fi through headphones).

No doubt the widespread adoption of these radical measures throughout NHS management will have a dramatic effect on waiting lists. Or perhaps it already has?

STEPHEN LOWE WATSON

Leeds, East Sussex

Terror of a Bill

Sir: You report that the so-called Terror Bill will provide the uncorroborated evidence of a single individual (a policeman) will suffice to convict someone of being a member of a banned group. Such a provision must be absolutely contrary to the need for justice to be seen to be done. This part of the Bill will make very bad law and safe verdicts are very unlikely to result. It has the side-effect of converting the police into a prosecution service and makes the dissolution of the Royal Ulster Constabulary ever more likely.

The same Bill will make it an offence to plan to commit any criminal offence abroad. Such a measure could catch not only terrorists, and, as your political correspondent suggests (report, 31 August), paedophiles and bank robbers, but also intending football fans.



Continuing our series on tourism in the capital, a visitor tries out a fancy hat from a street trader

John Voos

hooligans planning to travel to overseas matches and "party animals" Ibiza-bound. The last do seem pretty wide of the ostensible mark - international terrorism.

FENTON F ROBB

Eyemouth, Berwickshire

After the bombs

Sir: As someone from a Muslim background and with a keen interest in Africa, I condemn the three bomb attacks in Dar es Salaam, Nairobi and Cape Town. Yet it seems that what is on the rise is not so much Islamic fundamentalism but anti-Muslim sentiment.

Islamic fundamentalism has not been able to establish credible or legitimate institutions anywhere; nor has it been able to reconcile ideology with socio-economic change and it cannot point to any successes in increasing national development or welfare anywhere.

Its one-time source of inspiration, Iran, no longer spouts the same rhetoric.

Bin Laden and people like him do not and will not enjoy Muslim support all over the world because Muslims are not a homogeneous lot bent on terror.

Yet issues are easily Islamised and the anti-Muslim sentiment has become a handy and acceptable form of prejudice. This is a great mistake as the real threat to global peace resides elsewhere.

Global economic and political processes are marginalising parts of the world. Countries which are not on the development train may well produce forces which are anti-modern and anti-development and which espouse fundamentalist visions.

The way to prevent these developments will not be by demonising people and bombing them or by supporting agents of exclusiveness like Netanyahu's Israel. Rather, the self-appointed

police of the world, the USA, needs to promote itself to detective status and identify paths to a more inclusive world.

SHAFIUR RAHMAN

Cambridge

Sir: Could someone please explain why the two Nairobi bombing suspects are being tried in the United States and not Kenya, where the crime they are accused of took place ("Nairobi 'bombers' flown to New York", 28 August)?

If the Kenyan embassy in Washington had been bombed, killing two hundred Americans and 12 Kenyan diplomats, and if Kenya had a law on its statute books giving it the right to exact retribution anywhere in the world, would the culprits have

been sent to face justice in Kenya?

J M BUDD

Manningtree, Essex

Sir: US cruise missiles hit Khartoum shortly before the 100th anniversary of the Battle of Omdurman (2 September 1898), when British and Egyptian soldiers defeated an Islamic movement which had, among other things, substituted slave raids and pillaging for governance in South Sudan. One hundred years on, there are some parallels, but cruise missiles will merely exacerbate the fundamental problem that gives rise to the misery in Sudan today.

Until all parties to the civil war are held to their agreement to cease fire for an interim period, so that a referendum can be held to ask southerners what they want, the misery will continue. Britain sold the southerners down the river in 1954, but could now give substance to an ethical foreign policy by convening a conference to agree and establish ceasefire and referendum arrangements.

A government which has experienced the Northern Ireland peace process, which is a permanent member of the Security Council and which descends from the imperial power which created the modern Sudan could surely try to overcome this hurdle in order to bring about a peaceful settlement.

PHILIP WINTER

Nairobi

Sir: In view of both expert and more general misgivings surrounding President Clinton's motives for bombing the chemical plant in Khartoum, should he, on 3 September as proposed, be welcomed at Omagh of all places?

MARTIN BRADLEY

Townworth, Staffordshire

Sir: What an extraordinary admission of defeat for the Royal Shakespeare Company to want to demolish the very theatre that made it great (report, 27 August). I have just returned from Stratford, where I saw two plays in one day - one at The Swan and the other at the Royal Shakespeare Theatre and my experience was exactly the opposite to the claims made by the RSC.

During my three and a quarter hours in The Swan I was made profoundly uncomfortable and restless by my narrow, armless seat and by the deafening noise of the production, which was far too intrusive for such a limited space. Nor, however loudly they were shouting, could I hear the actors' words since, playing in the round, they were obliged to turn their backs on me half the time. The main house, in the evening, was by contrast elegant and comfortable and I could see and hear without strain.

What makes actors imagine that audiences want to be intimate with them? We get close-ups on film and television. What the theatre can so excitingly give us is a sense of spectacle and formality. There was no problem with audibility in the days of Olivier and Ashcroft. Rather than pull down a beautiful and historic building, let the actors and directors raise their game.

MEREDITH DANEMAN

London SW15

Sirs: Your correspondents (letters, 27, 28 August) do not seem capable of distinguishing the chasm between the political patronage and cronyism of Bernie Ecclestone or Derek Draper and the open honesty of Paul Sykes and Sir James Goldsmith.

Paul Sykes is seeking to represent the views of over 60 per cent of the population who are against the single currency and who through their taxes are funding a government campaign they don't agree with. By establishing single issue campaigns to raise public awareness, Sykes and Goldsmith augment the democratic process by stimulating debate.

DOUGLAS ELLISON

London SE3

Sir: Your leading article of 29 August suggest that the political role of the Crown could be exercised by the Speaker of the House of

Commons. Even in recent years the Speaker has been accused, however unjustifiably, of bias towards the party to which he or she once belonged.

The Swedes have already vested more power in the Speaker of the Riksdag. The role has become politicised. There is much to be said for the referee never having been a member of either team.

DONALD FOREMAN

Secretary

The Constitutional Monarchy Association

London E4

Sir: Glenda Cooper's article "Mad dows and dreaming spires" (27 August) reminded me of the old tale of an elderly Oxford don who had failed miserably to come to terms with the presence of female students at his lectures. No matter how many women were

present, he would always commence his lectures with the word "Gentlemen".

One day he arrived to find the lecture hall full of women.

There was only one male student present. Grasping his gown with both hands he took a deep breath. "Sir..."

JAMES W BROWNE

London WC1

Sir: When working on the drawings for the Time Life building in 1952, I remember hearing a tale from one of the small posse that went down to St Ives to commission Ben Nicholson ("Henry Moore sent back to his office", 28 August). When told that the clients had only half the money he was asking for a mural to cover the whole wall, which is what we all hoped for, he offered to paint them one half the size. This, sadly, was agreed.

GODFREY ELLIS MILES

Stamford, Lincolnshire

Sir: Your correspondents (letters, 27, 28 August) do not seem capable of distinguishing the chasm between the political patronage and cronyism of Bernie Ecclestone or Derek Draper and the open honesty of Paul Sykes and Sir James Goldsmith.

Paul Sykes is seeking to represent the views of over 60 per cent of the population who are against the single currency and who through their taxes are funding a government campaign they don't agree with. By establishing single issue campaigns to raise public awareness, Sykes and Goldsmith augment the democratic process by stimulating debate.

DOUGLAS ELLISON

London SE3

Sir: Your leading article of 29 August suggest that the political role of the Crown could be exercised by the Speaker of the House of

Commons. Even in recent years the Speaker has been accused, however unjustifiably, of bias towards the party to which he or she once belonged.

The Swedes have already vested more power in the Speaker of the Riksdag. The role has become politicised. There is much to be said for the referee never having been a member of either team.

DONALD FOREMAN

Secretary

The Constitutional Monarchy Association

London E4

Sir: When working on the drawings for the Time Life building in 1952, I remember hearing a tale from one of the small posse that went down to St Ives to commission Ben Nicholson ("Henry Moore sent back to his office", 28 August). When told that the clients had only half the money he was asking for a mural to cover the whole wall, which is what we all hoped for, he offered to paint them one half the size. This, sadly, was agreed.

GODFREY ELLIS MILES

Stamford, Lincolnshire

Sir: Your correspondents (letters, 27, 28 August) do not seem capable of distinguishing the chasm between the political patronage and cronyism of Bernie Ecclestone or Derek Draper and the open honesty of Paul Sykes and Sir James Goldsmith.

Paul Sykes is seeking to represent the views of over 60 per cent of the population who are against the single currency and who through their taxes are funding a government campaign they don't agree with. By establishing single issue campaigns to raise public awareness, Sykes and Goldsmith augment the democratic process by stimulating debate.

DOUGLAS ELLISON

London SE3

Sir: Your correspondents (letters, 27, 28 August) do not seem capable of distinguishing the chasm between the political patronage and cronyism of Bernie Ecclestone or Derek Draper and the open honesty of Paul Sykes and Sir James Goldsmith.

Paul Sykes is seeking to represent the views of over 60 per cent of the population who are against the single currency and who through their taxes are funding a government campaign they don't agree with. By establishing single issue campaigns to raise public awareness, Sykes and Goldsmith augment the democratic process by stimulating debate.

DOUGLAS ELLISON

London SE3

Sir: Your correspondents (letters, 27, 28 August) do not seem capable of distinguishing the chasm between the political patronage and cronyism of Bernie Ecclestone or Derek Draper and the open honesty of Paul Sykes and Sir James Goldsmith.

Paul Sykes is seeking to represent the views of over 60 per cent of the population who are against the single currency and who through their taxes are funding a government campaign they don't agree with. By establishing single issue campaigns to raise public awareness, Sykes and Goldsmith augment the democratic process by stimulating debate.

DOUGLAS ELLISON

London SE3

Sir: Your correspondents (letters, 27, 28 August) do not seem capable of distinguishing the chasm between the political patronage and cronyism of Bernie Ecclestone or Derek Draper and the open honesty of Paul Sykes and Sir James Goldsmith.

Paul Sykes is seeking to represent the views of over 60 per cent of the population who are against the single currency and who through their taxes are funding a government campaign they don't agree with. By establishing single issue campaigns to raise public awareness, Sykes and Goldsmith augment the democratic process by stimulating debate.

DOUGLAS ELLISON

London SE3

Sir: Your correspondents (letters, 27, 28 August) do not seem capable of distinguishing the chasm between the political patronage and cronyism of Bernie Ecclestone or Derek Draper and the open honesty of Paul Sykes and Sir James Goldsmith.

Paul Sykes is seeking to represent the views of over 60 per cent of the population who are against the single currency and who through their taxes are funding a government campaign they don't agree with. By establishing single issue campaigns to raise public awareness, Sykes and Goldsmith augment the democratic process by stimulating debate.

DOUGLAS ELLISON

London SE3

Sir: Your correspondents (letters, 27, 28 August) do not seem capable of distinguishing the chasm between the political patronage and cronyism of Bernie Ecclestone or Derek Draper and the open honesty of Paul Sykes and Sir James Goldsmith.

Paul Sykes is seeking to represent the views of over 60 per cent of the population who are against the single currency and who through their taxes are funding a government campaign they don't agree with. By establishing single issue campaigns to raise public awareness, Sykes and Goldsmith augment the democratic process by stimulating debate.

DOUGLAS ELLISON

London SE3

Sir: Your correspondents (letters, 27, 28 August) do not seem capable of distinguishing the chasm between the political patronage and cronyism of Bernie Ecclestone or Derek Draper and the open honesty of Paul Sykes and Sir James Goldsmith.

Paul Sykes is seeking to represent the views of over 60 per cent of the population who are against the single currency and who through their taxes are funding a government campaign they don't agree with. By establishing single issue campaigns to raise public awareness, Sykes and Goldsmith augment the democratic process by stimulating debate.

DOUGLAS ELLISON

London SE3

Sir: Your correspondents (letters, 27, 28 August) do not seem capable of distinguishing the chasm between the political patronage and cronyism of Bernie Ecclestone or Derek Draper and the open honesty of Paul Sykes and Sir James Goldsmith.

Paul Sykes is seeking to represent the views of over 60 per cent of the population who are against the single currency and who through their taxes are funding a government campaign they don't agree with. By establishing single issue campaigns to raise public awareness, Sykes and Goldsmith augment the democratic process by stimulating debate.

DOUGLAS ELLISON

London SE3

Sir: Your correspondents (letters, 27, 28 August) do not seem capable of distinguishing the chasm between the political patronage and cronyism of Bernie Ecclestone or Derek Draper and the open honesty of Paul Sykes and Sir James Goldsmith.

Paul Sykes is seeking to represent the views of over 60 per

THE INDEPENDENT

1 CANADA SQUARE, CANARY WHARF, LONDON E14 5DL. TELEPHONE: 0171 293 2000 OR 0171 345 2000 FAX: 0171 293 2435 OR 0171 345 2435
THE INDEPENDENT ON THE INTERNET: WWW.INDEPENDENT.CO.UK

The American president can still make a difference

WHAT DOES one say about today's meeting of Presidents Bill Clinton and Boris Yeltsin - two discredited leaders propping each other up as they desperately seek to get to the finishing line of the Millennium?

The White House must be wishing that it had never pencilled in the summit for 1 September as a means of bringing Clinton back on the world stage after his holiday. Even Moscow is embarrassed by having some 400 US journalists and half the State Department descend on it for a meeting that can now only show just how far they have slipped from superstar status.

The last time an oversexed President met an overimbibing President was when JF Kennedy met with Nikita Kruschev for an ill-fated embrace which was to lead directly to Cuba and Moscow's miscalculation of the new American President's resolve. This time, no one really expects any results. Those days are gone because political leaders no longer have very much real power over global affairs. The markets, and underlying forces, have taken over and just at the moment they are making things very difficult indeed in Russia.

The country is not in the position to do what the Hong Kong authorities have been spending nearly \$10bn trying to do: sustain the currency and squeeze the speculators. Nor would anyone advise them to do so. The IMF has no funds for further aid. Nor would the US Congress sanction the Federal Government to increase its assistance.

Powerlessness need not mean futility, however. The right words at this time can help. And no one should doubt President Clinton's ability to deliver them. He understands better than any leader since Churchill and Roosevelt how much politics is the art of tone. The world and the markets, never mind the Russians, do need an air of reassurance at this time; a feeling that while the problems are Russia's and theirs to solve, they will not spread or bring down the rest of the world with it.

For a start, Russia, while a pygmy in economic reality, remains a superpower in ballistic capability. For the Europeans, who no longer have to fear the threat of short- and medium-range ballistic missiles, this may not have much reality. But for the Americans it does. There is sense in propping up Yeltsin's personal position so long as he remains head of the armed services and he can now be kept above the domestic morass around him.

The economic ramifications of the present crisis are more difficult to control. But again fine words can but-



ter some parsnips. Markets cannot be reversed, but given the right nudge they can be stalled and even occasionally turned. Finance without barriers allows problems in one part to move very rapidly to others through the medium of currency swaps, futures and the "exotic" financial instruments that have been developed at such a hectic pace in the last few years. But that very fact gives the total system a depth and breadth with which to cope.

The need at this moment is to still any further waves of concern. And here American leadership can make a difference. As the largest economy in the world, its continued growth is of vital importance to the rest of the

world. As the headquarters of global finance, the decision of its institutions set the pace elsewhere.

Now is the time for Western central banks to start easing up on interest rates and the US Federal Reserve could start the process in its meeting this month. In the same way, US banks could do an enormous amount of good, or bad, in their negotiations over the financing of Brazil and Argentina.

No one is saying that, with a wave of his hand, Clinton can make Russia's political problems or the world's financial crisis disappear. But he can help influence events if the timing is right. On that score he still remains a master.

Give parents the choice on MMR

WHOEVER HEARD of a drugs company refusing to meet a rush for a profitable drug? That is exactly what Pasteur Mérieux MSD has done in discontinuing the supply of its measles vaccine. Ostensibly, the decision was made because the demand for the drug was too great to say the least, this does not sound credible.

Despite denials from all concerned, it seems much more plausible that the company has been forced by pressure from the Department of Health to end the supply of the drug. The alternative would have been to continue watching parents stampede away from the combined version of the treatment (MMR), which combines a measles vaccine with those for mumps and rubella. The single vaccines, given over three years, are more expensive overall to the NHS; concerns of cost must have entered into the equation.

The medical establishment has argued that the original research, on which parents' fears are based, was alarmist. The Medical Research Council claims that the apparent correlation between MMR inoculation and the disease to which it has been linked is a coincidence. Autism does appear at about the same age as the vaccinations are given, but the evidence is that this was always the case. No one should panic, especially as the result of frightening parents might be increasing deaths from measles, mumps and rubella.

But parents are worried, and doctors have been wrong before. Whatever the Medical Council says, it is their concerns that matter; they have a right to decide which treatments their children receive. It would cost very little for the NHS to give parents the choices they want. Certainly, the money spent on MMR would be nothing compared to what the Government is spending in its attack on waiting-lists. And for the NHS to be humanised, by responding to the wishes of patients, would do it much more good than all the waiting-list targets in the world.

Don't bank on them

BANK HOLIDAYS have lost not only the reason for their name, but also the reasons for their existence. The banks are open, whatever the British Government may say about it - traders in London yesterday were buying and selling anything they wanted. Every nation needs a day for its families, and people of every religion have a right to take their holy days off work, but a multicultural society no longer needs the prop of manufactured community. We should be able to take them whenever we want, just like other holidays.

I'm fed up with this myth of superiority spouted by the Scots

IT HAPPENED last Saturday afternoon. A Scotswoman opened her mouth, and all of a sudden I knew I'd had enough of all this Scots who have stuff, and decided that if one more person whinged to me, even in a minor key, about how the English fail to comprehend the Scots, then I'd give them a Culloden.

The occasion for this moment of revelation came in the Assembly Halls of the Church of Scotland in Edinburgh. I was in the audience of TV bigwigs to hear Suzanne Moore and Christopher Hitchens, among others, debate the Diana, Princess of Wales phenomenon. Had it been something real, as Suzanne persuasively argued? Or half media construction and half obscurantist hysteria, as Christopher elegantly opined?

And then the Scots woman (let us call her Morag) stood up. Reminding us that our burns were parked on hollowed leather (the Assembly Halls will serve, *pro tem*, as a meeting place for the new Scottish parliament), Morag angrily denied the relevance of the debate. There had been, she said, no Diana stuff in her country. She had herself, she told us, gone to the coach station in Edinburgh a year ago to watch mourners depart for the funeral - only to discover that they were all bound for Blackpool. The hysteria had all happened "down south". She made London sound like Alabama.

Morag's assault was two-pronged. First, she was cross about metropolitan and London bias. Fair enough, but she was also saying, in effect, that the Scots would not be, could not be, stupid, superstitious or hidebound enough to fall for the Diana con, like the silly English. "We up here," she in-

sisted, "are superior to, and more progressive than, you. And the sooner we are shot of you the better."

Such an attitude of cultural superiority demands a history, or rather, a mythology to sustain it. And the construction of a mythology is what the Scottish National Party, among others, is all about. In order for nationalism to be regarded as something other than a mad, romantic movement wishing to return to medieval times, Scots nationalists require the painting of a picture of progressive, modernising Scots held back by the reactionary English.

The myth starts in 1320 with the Declaration of Arbroath. "Parallels between this... and the later American Declaration of Independence are clear," says a nationalist website, because "enshrined in the declaration is the principle that sovereignty rests with the people". The declaration says that the King of Scotland can be deposed if he holds power over the English. "There you have it," exults the author. "That Declaration of Scottish Independence, 675 years old, states clearly that the people will choose their king..." This contrasts markedly with the English concept of sovereignty where the monarch is sovereign over the people and the land. The two philosophies collide after the Treaty of Union (1707) to the point where the Westminster Parliament now considers itself to have absolute sovereignty.

Get it? The Scots are into the rights of Man, while the poor old Saxons are still bending the knee. And it is historical tost. The England that Scots increasingly seem to believe in is their own (and Hollywood's) fiction. I love Scotland and I'm happy that



DAVID AARONOVITCH
Nationalists require the painting of a picture of progressive Scots held back by the reactionary English

there'll be a Scots parliament, and I could even cope with Scots independence. But somebody really ought to tell our Caledonian brothers and sisters that they are going to miss us. For, while English people do not, whatever the tabloid press say, think that Coronation Street is true, the Scots give every impression of accepting that Broxhead and Rob Roy are.

So let me reintroduce my Scottish friends to the real English, the radical English, the English who existed before the Act of Union made us - willy-nilly - British. One hundred and five years earlier than the Declaration of Arbroath, at Bannockburn, King John was forced to sign Magna Carta, giving subjects rights including that of habeas corpus, and establishing that monarchs rule because they are allowed to. It was in England uniquely that, in the wake of the Black Death, feudalism began to crumble. An Eng-

lish poet wrote the subversive words "when Adam dove and Eve span, who was then the gentleman?" some three centuries before Burns agreed, with "a man's a man for a' that". In 1381 England witnessed the Peasants' Revolt, when Wat Tyler took London and beheaded the Archbishop of Canterbury. The folk hero of emergent England was Robin Hood, a premature redistributor. Those of Scotland, by contrast, are almost always feudal figures.

The folk culture of England, from the earliest times, was infused with notions of freedom and justice, of brawny green cloth against knights. It was to that sense of Englishness that the revolutionaries of the 1640s looked when fighting against their (Scottish) king. It was the English who decapitated their tyrant, 144 years before the French got round to it. The Diggers and the Levellers were English, inviting their followers to acts of radicalism in the name of the "new St George". Cromwell's famous beheading "in the bowels of Christ, think it possible that you may be mistaken" was addressed to the hopelessly sectarian of Scottish Presbyterianism.

It was in England in 1689-1690 years before the Act of Union, that the Bill of Rights enacted the supremacy of Parliament over the King. It's little wonder, then, that many Englishmen opposed the Union: they weren't keen on being yoked to feudal Scots, lots of whom seemed intent on restoring the Stuarts. English progressives were also aware that the representative element had always been much weaker in the Scots parliament than in the English, and that Scotland was largely run by great estates-holders.

England, too, was (as it is now) a

much more heterogeneous and polyglot place. Detoe characterised English genius as being created through a "mongrel, half-bred race". London was a haven for successive generations of immigrants - I should know. England gave birth to Tom Paine, to the common law, and to Blake's vision of Jerusalem: a radical notion of paradise on earth - England's Green and Pleasant Land. One day, when Britain is gone, it'll be our national anthem - not "Rule Britannia", which was written by a Scot.

The Tolpuddle Martyrs were English, as were most of the Chartists, as were the Jarrow marchers. As is - and here's the rub - Margaret Thatcher. For progress cuts all ways, and England, far more open to the world, has been the home of radical change and ideas, not always of the left. Scotland, on the other hand, has been comparatively conservative. It retains to this day land rights that are relics of a feudal age. Its Labour councils are like baronies, run by latter-day thrones and lards. It harboured, for many years, the worst kind of deferential Toryism. Until 10 years ago no Catholic had ever played for Glasgow Rangers.

No wonder the new Scottish elite would rather fashion a different history. Linda Colley, in her book *Britons*, describes some of the Scots of 1707 thus: "As for the wealthy or ambitious minority, they were torn between anger at the loss of Scotland's ancient independence and a natural desire for a wider stage than their own homeland could afford them. At one and the same time they resented the South and craved its bounty and opportunities."

They still do. Perhaps, after independence, they'll give over.

QUOTE OF THE DAY

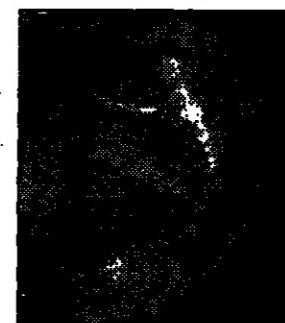
"People don't seem to be able to distinguish between celebrity and notoriety. They ask for autographs and photographs and things. They ask me to sign baseball caps, which I find ridiculous." Louise Woodward

THOUGHT FOR THE DAY

"For the merchant, even honesty is a financial speculation." Charles Baudelaire, French poet

AMAZING NEW HEARING AID

For full details of the latest ReSound Digital Technology and the aid you can look at without really seeing.



INTRODUCING THE
RE SOUND®

FREEPHONE NOW FOR ADDRESS AND DIRECTIONS TO YOUR LOCAL NATIONWIDE HEARING CENTRE
0808 100 8444

Full choice of latest hearing aids available including range of products on no deposit rental terms.

Nationwide Hearing includes branches of Ultratone, SieTech, Amplivox, Auralide & Ingrams, located throughout the United Kingdom, Channel Islands & Eire.
Ultratone Ltd., Sunnycroft Road, Wilmslow, Cheshire SK9 4HH.

MONITOR

ALL THE NEWS OF THE WORLD
Reaction to Hong Kong's measures against speculators



takes a higher priority than defending the reputation of the market. The government has to be forever vigilant in the absence of a detailed strategy to counter the speculators. We urge the government to quickly draw up such a plan. *Hong Kong Daily News*
WHATEVER THE preference of individual governments, it has become clear to all that the rules of the game across Asia must be changed, in order to keep rapacious speculators at bay, and to maintain stability in economies. Over the weekend, Hong Kong went forward some way to changing these rules. It will now be much more expensive for speculators to wreak havoc here. These are welcome changes, though how effective they will be in containing those destructive elements remains to be seen. *Hong Kong Standard*
Sing Tao, China

THE HONG Kong dollar has to be stabilised in order to maintain public confidence in the economy. Financial Secretary Sir Donald Tsang Yam-kuen stressed that the government was ready to continue the war against the speculators, who apparently have not yet given up the fight. Compounded by the unfavourable economic environment, and the negative GDP this year, confidence would have been shattered and the currency destabilised. Therefore, the market inter-

PANDORA

PROMISES, PROMISES. The Culture Secretary, Chris Smith, is a nice guy, perhaps too nice for his own good. When he visited Saltaire, the 19th-century Yorkshire model village created by the millionaire philanthropist Sir Titus Salt, Smith told the locals that he was keen to have the town placed among the 32 British sites on the United Nations' World Heritage list. However, on 21 August, when the British sites were announced, Saltaire was nowhere in sight. Now the local Labour MP, Christopher Leslie, is furious and plans to ask Smith some tough questions on the selection process. Chris Smith, considered lucky to have held his post in the Blair reshuffle, was called lightweight and ineffective by a Labour-dominated Commons committee on culture last June. No more Mr Nice Guy, OK, Chris?

THE REV Jesse Jackson was at Chelsea Clinton's request, ministering to the First Family in the White House on the Sunday evening before the President's disastrous grand jury appearance and late-night "apology". This Sunday the former aide to Martin Luther King and ex-presidential candidate spoke to the American people on a TV programme called *Face the Nation*. "I think he should have made it very clear," Jackson said of Clinton, "to Monica, to the family; all of those forces need to feel there's no fall-guy. The responsibility should have been in his lap." Have true words ever been spoken?

THE NEW television series of *The X-Files* will not be filmed in Canada, as it was previously, but in sunny Los Angeles. The location change came, in part, as a response to the star David Duchovny's unhappiness about making the long northward commute, says the *Los Angeles Times*. Efforts are apparently being made to avoid losing the show's weird, dark atmosphere. The sultry actress Gillian Anderson, who plays Agent Scully, claims, "It will still be moody. There'll still be a lot of smoke." This was echoed by the producer Paul Robwin, who added: "We're looking forward to creating a whole new look for the show without



PANICKY AFTER the collapse of the Russian economy, the City is desperate for good news out of Moscow. Pandora is happy to provide it. Naina Yeltsin, Boris's wife, (pictured) remains in a bullish mood despite the tumbling rouble and the return of black market currency dealing to the city's streets. She told a group of reporters over the weekend, "Intuition is telling me that everything will be all right". So that's a "buy" then?

destroying its integrity". That does sound like Hollywood smoke, doesn't it?

"JUST DO IT" So goes the Nike slogan broadcast around the world, accompanied by the famous white tick. Now, it seems, the sportswear manufacturer is itching for a pitch that's less aggressive, more positive, equally punchy. Rumour has it that the most likely new slogan is "I can". To which Pandora's initial response is "So what?"

NET SURFERS and Zipplegate conspiracy fans are well acquainted with the Drudge Report produced by "outlaw" electronic journalist Matt Drudge, who first broke the Monica Lewinsky story. Although much abuse has been piled on Drudge by mainstream American broadcasters and journalists, his "Report" receives as many as 11m visits a month. Now it has been paid the ultimate compliment – a parody site called the "Drudge Retort", well worth a visit, at www.drudgereport.com. Not only is the satirical "exclusives" mildly amusing, the page contains a long list of links to some of the most eccentric sites on the Web. In the meantime, Drudge himself has now signed a contract with Rupert Murdoch's Fox Network. His "outlaw" status is clearly at an end.

THE DRUG-FREE Selmas Method of choosing your baby's sex, first introduced a year ago, is being relaunched. The Selmas people are now so confident that they're offering a full refund to parents who don't get the result they wanted. That's impressive corporate confidence, but Pandora wonders if the company would ever consider exchanging the goods for genuinely unsatisfied customers?

IT'S A LOT OF SMOKE. Gillian Anderson, who plays Agent Scully, claims, "It will still be moody. There'll still be a lot of smoke." This was echoed by the producer Paul Robwin, who added: "We're looking forward to creating a whole new look for the show without

A romp in the groves of academe



TERENCE BLACKER

Those who couldn't pull undergraduates took each other to bed in a fit of promiscuity and infidelity

erant and easygoing man could not be imagined.

Perhaps the best defence that he could offer is to point out that exclusivity is not the preserve of heterosexuals. This very week Manchester's Mardi Gras festival has introduced for the first time a charge of £5 to be paid by any heterosexual man who wishes to join the party. In addition, straight

men will be required to wear a Pledge Band on their arm, presumably to avoid misunderstandings and save time. "For far too long the Gay Village has been overrun by straights," the editor of *Gay Times*, David Smith, has explained. "I'd rather have a heart to heart with another gay man about the ups and downs on the relationship front and get his gay take on the new football season."

finding converts to his cause at the Manchester Mardi Gras is difficult for Charlie (and I can see him being able to contribute much to the gay take on the new football season), he could always return to our old Alma Mater, Trinity College, to discuss matters of intolerance with Dr Eric Griffiths, the English don who humiliated an 18-year-old interviewee on the grounds that she was female, came from Essex and was called Tracy.

Although much has been made in the press about the fact Dr Griffiths is gay and the son of a doctor, neither background nor sexual orientation have anything to do with his peculiar taste for sadistic snotteries. His problem is simply that

he is a modern literary academic.

Shortly after Charlie and I came down from Trinity, university life became more complicated. Lecturers started sleeping with their students, frequently allowing non-academic talents to influence the marking of papers. Those who couldn't pull undergraduates took each other to bed and an unseemly fever of promiscuity and infidelity gripped the academy, leaving rage and disappointment in its wake.

Young academics in English faculties were subjected to a further torture. The brighter of their contemporaries – David Lodge, Malcolm Bradbury, Andrew Davies and others – took to writing campus novels and dramas and became media celebrities. The division between learned criticism and the rapid opinion-mongering favoured in Sunday newspapers and late-night arts shows on TV became blurred. Caught between envy and contempt for their more visible colleagues, a whole generation of English academics went bonkers and tried to destroy reading altogether by teaching literary theory.

The tuckless Griffiths made his name at Cambridge just when these changes were taking their toll. He wrote his one book, developed a reputation for the rough-tongued camperry that passes for wit in academic circles, and became a judge on the Booker Prize. If ever there was a cry of pain, it was his description of A S Byatt's Possession as "the kind of novel I'd write if I didn't know I couldn't write novels".

Some have said that it is healthy that such people are in positions of power at the modern university.

They point out that many students of Dr Griffiths have used his crash-course in brutality to good effect – Vanessa Feltz humiliating people on TV, Amanda Craig writing a take-no-prisoners satirical novel,

David Sexton causing the same

novel to be withdrawn and rewritten.

They argue that, had Tracy not fled from the interview in tears, she might already be on her way to a career in one of the rougher areas of the media.

It's possible. In the meantime, I hope that those contemplating a pink protest at Packington Hall will remember that intolerance covers both – in fact, all – genders.

Memo to Mr Blair: we need to talk about raising taxes



RAYMOND PLANT

Discussion of any area of taxation within New Labour's ranks has been seriously inhibited

FOR NEW Labour, taxation is an issue of particular sensitivity. Among the party leadership it is received wisdom that Labour owed its defeat in the 1992 election to John Smith's "shadow budget". However small the actual tax increases proposed, they enabled Tory propaganda once again to portray Labour as a party of high taxation. Getting rid of this image was one of the first tasks that Tony Blair and the creators of "new Labour" set themselves. The result was the commitment of the party's 1997 manifesto that there would be no increases in either the basic or the higher rate of income tax in the lifetime of this parliament.

So central to New Labour's identity is this commitment that discussion of any area of taxation within the party's ranks has been seriously inhibited. This is not healthy. In the first place, Labour has not solved the basic problem of the British tax system. For nearly 30 years British governments have only managed to finance their public spending commitments through the expediency of one-off and short-term injections of funds into the Exchequer: first North Sea Oil revenues, then privatisation receipts, and most recently the windfall tax. The underlying tax system is simply not generating sufficient, sustainable revenues.

Even more importantly, the lack of debate about taxation policy leaves New Labour politically vulnerable. For the ideal of generalised low taxation is an essentially Thatcherite one. To the New Right, taxation is a form of theft, an illegitimate appropriation of income rightfully belonging to individuals. (Hence Mrs Thatcher's insistence that public funds remained "tax-payers' money".) The Tories' constant desire to cut taxation is not

simply a form of electoral bribery; it is the corollary of the neo-liberal belief that the state should be reduced in size.

For those on the centre and left of politics this cannot be the basis for public action. One may argue about the appropriate level of taxation – there need certainly be no commitment to high levels of tax – but the essential legitimacy of taxation must be maintained. Public expenditure is good, providing services which private spending cannot do. Paying taxes, as Keynes remarked, is simply the membership fee for living in a civilised society.

One task of the Commission on Taxation and Citizenship which the Fabian Society launched today will be to articulate these basic centre-left arguments for a new political era. We hope to shift debate finally off the Thatcherite terrain. But more importantly, the Commission will be examining how the structure of the tax system could be reformed.

First, there is the whole question of the relationship between the public, the taxes they pay, and the uses to which such taxes are put. The British system is highly centralised. We pay almost all our taxes into a single central pool, which then gets distributed by government in the Budget – with extraordinary little prior public debate – to all its various forms of spending. For the ordinary citizen, this process obscures any connection between what one pays in to the system and what one gets out. It is hardly any wonder that opinion polls reveal what would otherwise look like a paradox: there is little support for higher taxes per se, but a majority is willing to pay more for particular kinds of spending, such as health and education.

But why shouldn't taxes be more closely connected to the benefits they pay for? By "hypothecating" or earmarking particular sources of revenue to particular expenditures, the government might substantially increase the public acceptability of taxation. Indeed it has already recognised this principle in the transport White Paper, which allows local authorities to levy road congestion charges for the specific purpose of funding public transport. It could similarly earmark other taxes; duties on cigarettes and alcohol to fund the National Health Service, pollution charges to fund environmental improvements, a tax on child benefit to fund nurseries.

Hypothecation has clear limits – government needs flexibility in its spending decisions – but the principle of transparency it represents is surely legitimate. A second means of achieving this might be to allow taxation on a sub-national level. Again, the principle has already been accepted, with the Scottish Parliament soon to have tax-raising powers. But why not in local government? It is time to re-examine the financing of local

expenditure. Indeed, if local people could vote directly on how their councils spent their money, this might help to re-invigorate local democracy.

A third issue which needs a new look at is that of how fair the tax system is. The principle that those who earn more should contribute proportionately more was seriously eroded under the Tories. The obvious areas for reform here are the systems of tax banding and of reliefs and allowances. It seems odd that when an individual's earning level reaches £30,000, the rate of income tax leaps by more than half (24% to 40%) but then stays exactly the same, however much more one's income rises.

It is surely not beyond our intelligence to devise a more differentiated system. We might also examine whether the very large sums of public revenues which are currently given back in reliefs and allowances – disproportionately to higher income earners – might not be more efficiently and fairly spent in other ways.

Finally, there is the question of what is taxed. The argument over the relative merits of income and expenditure taxation have been well rehearsed in the past. But new issues are emerging too. As businesses become increasingly multinational and as electronic (Internet-based) commerce expands, it will become easier for firms to evade national taxation by shifting the apparent location of their businesses. This may increase the attractiveness of "unenviable" forms of taxation such as energy and land. Other forms of environmental taxation are already under discussion. There is a good case for the taxation of international currency speculation, which might help dampen volatile money markets.



These are just some of the issues which the Commission on Taxation and Citizenship will be examining over the next year. Taxation is at the heart of the relationship between the citizen and the state, a relationship subject in recent years to a significant loss of trust. The challenge is not just to devise a better tax system, but in the process to help rejuvenate the process of democracy itself.

Raymond Plant (Lord Plant of Highfield) is a Labour peer, Master of St Catherine's College, Oxford, and Chair of the Fabian Society's Commission on Taxation and Citizenship.

THE INDEPENDENT ALUMINIUM MULTI-PURPOSE ARTICULATED LADDERS - from just £99.95 inc p&p

Probably the most versatile and cost-effective ladder you will ever buy, the 'Super Step Pro' can be locked into 13 different positions, making it perfect for descending stairs, as well as a work bench, as a scaffold for trimming high garden hedges, as a normal or extended stepladder – and much more. It's especially useful for example when making repairs to windows or gutters as you can work "away" from the wall, unlike a normal ladder.

Manufactured to the highest European quality and safety standards (EN131) in heavy gauge aluminium, and designed to prevent oxidation, these superb ladders are available in two sizes. The Super Step Pro extends to a maximum height of 3.09m (10') and will cost you just £99.95. The Super Step Pro-Plus extends to 4.83m (15ft 10"), weighs 17kg (37lb 7oz) and costs just £149.95. Normal price £169.95. Both fold small enough to be easily carried or will fit into a normal car boot. Prices include delivery and a ten year manufacturers guarantee.

Newspaper Publishing PLC Registered in England No. 1908967

HOW TO ORDER (for UK readers only). Fill in the coupon quoting your ACCESS/VISA card number, or send with cheque or postal orders. NO CASH. TO THE INDEPENDENT ARTICULATED LADDER ORDER, TRUEBELL HOUSE, LOMBARD ROAD, LONDON SW19 3TZ.

Or call the CREDIT CARD ORDER HOTLINE ON 0181 540 9696.

ACCESS/VISA welcome. Please quote ref: IND710. Allow 28 days for delivery, subject to availability. If you are not satisfied with your return within 7 days for a full refund.

Every Day _____

Signature _____

NAME _____

ADDRESS _____

Post Code _____

Seal in:

THE INDEPENDENT ARTICULATED LADDER ORDER, TRUEBELL HOUSE, LOMBARD ROAD, LONDON SW19 3TZ.

Please tick if you do not want to receive information from us by post or computer, approved by News paper Publishing Plc.

IND710

Sky's the limit in the digital lift-off



PODIUM

ELISABETH MURDOCH

From a speech given to

the Edinburgh

Television Festival by

the managing director

of Sky Networks

reinvent television, for the first time since its inception. Digital is a technology that enables us to compete in a world that demands extensive choice and added value. Digital allows you to manage choice. But not by limiting that choice, as others have suggested. The answer cannot be to "dumb down" or provide less. The answer is to use the technology to provide context as well as content.

You could say that "Electronic Programme Guides" are to digital TV what Apple was to computing. Digital will enable us to give added value to people's viewing by providing them with their own personal "television navigation system".

transforming the TV experience just as Apple and Windows made computers viable.

So digital allows for more content and the digital "EPG" will give context. But digital will also do to television what unfettered choice has done to other markets. It will make us all better. The fact is, in the UK, sooner rather than later, the digital multi-channel household is going to be the norm.

The EPG is the greatest leveller of all. It guarantees that

audiences – niche audiences all wanting and needing different "fare". It happened in magazines, and it's happening to us.

In all British TV households, television viewing has declined over the past five years, while reading, eating out and holidays are on the increase and far preferred to watching TV.

In the UK, nearly half of Internet users claim that their use is at the expense of watching TV. This means that the PC will be a growing competitor for people's attention. Most UK research groups agree that by the end of next year – within just 18 months – UK Internet penetration will be close to that of multi-channel TV today.

What is interesting, however, is that digital television has destroyed the convergence theory. PCs may compete with us, but they're not going to become us.

For years now, the word "convergence" has gone side by side with digital TVs and PCs would get married and live happily ever after. I'm sorry to be the bearer of bad news, but there's been a divorce.

All of us have to face up to the irreversible fragmentation into countless personal audi-

ences – niche audiences all wanting and needing different "fare". It happened in magazines, and it's happening to us.

With big events at one end and niches at the other, what is going to happen to the middle? The answer is that choice and fragmentation may well kill off the middle, unless we respond quickly and decisively to what's already happening. Although I'd be the first to acknowledge that the current system has produced some fantastic television, it cannot be denied that some broadcasters have reacted to competition and fragmentation by putting out "least objectionable programmes" – blander rather than better – to appeal to the widest possible audience.

Most of us have worked for so long in a three- or four-channel environment, that it may seem impossible to move out of our comfort zone. In tomorrow's TV world, where multi-channel TV homes are every home, blandness will be anathema. Content will have to be innovative, ambitious and competitive. We have to leap forward with confidence. Because the most dangerous thing will be to play it safe.

SPY in 1998

Russia's old hand at the helm

RUSSIA'S LAZARUS Prime Minister, Viktor Chernomyrdin, started out as the man Boris Yeltsin did not want as head of government, and has ended up in control of the destiny of the President - or put more cruelly, of the pace and manner of his political demise.

President Clinton, who spent much of last week being told by his advisers that Mr Yeltsin was likely to be out of office by the time he arrived in Moscow for today's summit, now finds that his opposite number in Moscow has pulled off the most extraordinary of his many survival acts to date. A deal between the Communist-dominated parliament and Chernomyrdin is intended to shore up the President until the Kremlin elections planned for the year 2000.

But it is Chernomyrdin who is pulling the President's strings, and to him that the US will appeal to save Russia's battered reforms: just five months after a panicked Yeltsin sacked him, only to re-appoint him last week after the sudden double devaluation brought on an even greater panic. Chernomyrdin's eclipse of Yeltsin is the latest step in a tortuous and ambiguous relationship between the two men which began in 1992, when the former head of Gazprom, the natural gas industry, was imposed on Yeltsin in his first defeat by the Congress of People's Deputies, the legislative hangover from the Communist era, and an early power base for the enemies of reform.

He replaced Yegor Gaidar, the young monetarist beloved of the West, as Prime Minister. Yeltsin was unable to hide the pain of the moment, standing with bowed head at the podium after he had given in, and announcing through his spokesman that he and Gaidar had been "one heart and one soul". If the hird account of the President's ousted bodyguard, Alexander Korzakov, is to be believed, Yeltsin's drink problem began - or rather resurfaced - at this time.

Chernomyrdin arrived in office as the incarnation of all that the Yeltsin team stood against. He wanted to go slow where the reformers sought to move fast, favoured the role of the state where they elevated the market, and called for the loosening of monetary policy while they saw resulting inflation as the greatest threat to prosperity.

The West has become far more jaundiced about the chances of reforms making rapid headway in Russia than it was then. As a Moscow correspondent when Chernomyrdin arrived in office, I still remember our dismay at the first public glimpse of the new premier, still dazed after his leap from deciding the fate of oil subsidies one minute to heading the government the next. Chancellor Kohl, arriving that day to deliver one of his periodic pep-talks and encourage German investment, was only told as he was flying over the Baltic States that he was to be met by Chernomyrdin, not Gaidar.

Instead of the podgy young reformer with eager eccentric English, and a fascination for the free market, there stood on the tarmac a sombre figure in a navy-blue raincoat - the traditional outdoors uniform of the *nomenklatura*. The new PM looked like a cross between Mikhail Gorbachev and Helmut Kohl. But his style was pure *flame soviétique*, and there was something strangely familiar about his habit of delivering promising starts to sentences, only for their reformism to evaporate in the second. "I am for the market, but not for the bazaar" was his first soundbite. His first act was to try and re-impose price controls, a move defeated by Yeltsin's reformist economic adviser Boris Fyodorov.

MANY CHANGES will be necessary if the Government is to fulfil its pledge so that it works with, rather than against, the grain of human nature. But pensions are the big issue. Reform here attempts to lay down the basis on which future income begins to be determined only after 40 years or so. Such a reform is not for those who seek only short-term fixes. There are, for example, still 700,000 pensioners today drawing entitlement from the 1925 Pensions Act.

Pension provision has a profound impact on work incentives, as well as on the propensity to save. In taking an overall view, this book has important lessons for today's debate, provided that the reader is willing to push through the ideological framework in which John Macnicol seeks to impose on the story he seeks to tell.

His book kicks off with an introduction which hardly links to the rest



ANNE MCÉLOVY

I still remember our dismay at the first public glimpse of the new premier - a sombre figure in a navy-blue raincoat

Chernomyrdin was - and still is - a representative of the pragmatic if limited mentality of the "red managers" who really kept the Soviet Union running in its terminal phase. A recent interview with the *Financial Times* exhibits his continuing pride in this era: "I transformed the government industry into a company and I myself... was the first to do this in the [Soviet] Union. I understood even then that we had reached a dead end." Handing Gazprom out of the claws of the dying Soviet state created one of the world's largest companies. Chernomyrdin clearly believes that he is skilled at market economics. But running a monopoly in an essential commodity, whose gargantuan size guarantees it a major international standing, hardly counts as experience of the cut and thrust of capitalism.

Indeed, his attachment to his former contacts (radical reformers nickname him the minister for Gazprom) linked him to several of the business and banking oligarchs who are a more powerful force in Russia than the politicians. Their empires flourished under his premiership. For a man who believed in the market, not the bazaar, he presided over the greatest national cut-price asset sale of the century - with profits flooding into western bank accounts, not back into the impoverished Russian tax system.

It is hardly surprising then, that many pro-free market Western analysts are concluding that the revival of Chernomyrdin is a disaster, since he was responsible for many of the problems to start with. But they are unable to suggest a politically valid alternative. Chernomyrdin is no fool. He is keenly aware that he can only prevent a worse decline in Russia - and bolster his own chance of replacing Yeltsin in the Kremlin in two years' time - if he manages to collect some tax revenue from the country's powerful companies, and clamp down on their habit of salting away profits in banks outside the country. In other words, he needs to pick a fight with the very people who are supporting him now.

Watching Boris Berzovsky, the most prominent of the business tsars, telling *Newsnight* that Chernomyrdin would be good for the country - and proceeding to mix up the words "country" and "company" several times - did not inspire confidence.

But my hunch is that Chernomyrdin has learned more in the last six years than his detractors give him credit for. He has appointed as deputy prime minister Boris Fyodorov, the same man who defeated him over price controls in 1993. He also knows that Russian business has little interest in a fully-fledged Communist revival, let alone a Communist in the Kremlin. The red managers who rose to political, as well as economic, prominence under Mikhail



The new image of Russia: Victor Chernomyrdin may not be the best thing for the country, but he is certainly not the worst

Gorbachev's perestroika are scathing about ideological diehards, like the present Communist leader, Gennady Zyuganov, who have substituted nationalist chauvinism for Marxist-Leninism. Zyuganov tried to scupper the peace deal that brought an end to the pointless, degrading and expensive war in Chechnya, after Chernomyrdin had helped broker an armistice.

"They destroyed everything; they destroyed the best people; they destroyed the peasants," Chernomyrdin has said of the Communists, a rather cynical outcry for

someone whose entire career before 1991 was bound up with the Communist Party of the Soviet Union. But it does mean that, like Boris Yeltsin, his priority is to keep Zyuganov and his ally, the unhinged Vladimir Zhirinovskiy, out of power by ousting them in his *de facto* running of the country. If he is not the best thing that could happen to Russia, he is far from the worst.

Neither, unlike his extremist challengers, is he economically illiterate. He knows that he must find some way to pay back wages owed to workers (and a cause taken up by

RIGHT OF REPLY

ANDREW PAKES

The President of the National Union of Students responds to Ken Livingstone's accusation that they are backtracking on racism

READING KEN Livingstone's article in the *Indy* last Wednesday I was struck by one overwhelming thought: how sad it is that an individual who obviously has such a positive record in anti-racism work can get things (on occasion) so wrong.

I wholeheartedly agree with Ken's assertion that political correctness is a reactionary American import used by the right as a rallying call for all those opposed to the advances made in recent years by women, black and Asian communities, people with disabilities and lesbians, gays and bisexuals.

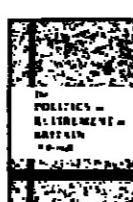
However, our Ken, does "his" cause no good when he attacks the National Union of Students for its role in combating the threat of Islamic extremists on campus. Has Ken constructed a league table of those who face prejudice and discrimination and prioritised which offenders most deserve our contempt and attention?

NUS has never claimed the small but dangerous groups of Islamic extremists are the main cause of racism, but they are a distinct and real threat to the welfare and safety of many students. As a gay male, I myself, have been subjected to some of their bile and hatred.

Racism is a series of diverse and often complex prejudices between and within different groups in "multi-cultural" Britain. This year's NUS Conference took an overwhelming vote to establish a Black Students Officer; while in July, Neville Lawrence addressed our annual Student Convention.

The student movement remains committed to fighting racism in all its forms, and I am not alone in finding Ken's belief - that challenging Islamic extremism on campus is not really fighting racism - quite bizarre.

The changing face of old age



TUESDAY BOOK

THE POLITICS OF RETIREMENT IN BRITAIN, 1878-1948
BY JOHN MACNICOL, CAMBRIDGE UNIVERSITY PRESS, £45

of the volume, the structure of which the author tries to fit into the neat little boxes of class and gender. Fortunately, the story to be told is so good that it keeps breaking out from the limited confines the author is intent to place upon it.

Here is one example of the slant in much of Macnicol's text. On too many occasions, we learn that the wicked Tories would only countenance welfare reform provided it was financed on a basis of national insurance. The working class, in other words, would pay for its own reforms. There is no hint that there could be other, more substantial,

reasons for such an approach. Paying directly for benefits may affect the behaviour of the recipient, for example.

A further difficulty with this approach comes when the author moves away from the interwar years, dominated by the Tories, and on to the programme of postwar reconstruction.

Clement Attlee accepted the insurance principle not because he was a crypto-Tory - nothing could be farther from the truth. He did so because he believed that a welfare system which people believed they owned was one which might not only survive longer, but would play its own part in building a new socialist commonwealth.

It is true that Lord Beveridge drove the insurance principle into a financial cul-de-sac by insisting on flat-rate contributions for flat-rate benefits. But once Beveridge and Attlee mitigated the regressive nature of this national insurance poll tax by allowing to put the taxpayer's contribution at two-thirds of the welfare bill. An analysis of this Exchequer contribution, adding a progressive element to a system which allowed practically every worker to be a full member of the insurance scheme, does not feature in this volume.

Where the book is good is in the section dealing with the reform of the Poor Law, and the advent of old age pensions. And it is exceptionally good in the chapter dealing with the interwar studies of poverty.

Better than any other study I have read, Macnicol shows how the reform of the Poor Law at the turn of the century was not simply about easing the



Poverty still affects too many old people

lot of the aged poor; whose only offence was that they no longer had the strength to drag themselves to work should any employer want them. Help for the aged opened up the opportunity for a tougher regime for those of working age, and this too was a goal for most reformers who advocated the introduction of state pensions.

Macnicol excels, adding much to public knowledge, and hopefully to the political debate, in his analysis of what was read from the interwar poverty studies. He shows how the aged poor were very largely written out of these studies by those who wrote up the surveys, despite what the raw data suggested.

I had long been aware of how Rowntree's arbitrary "poverty line" had underestimated the costs of women and children, as compared to the adult male. I had not appreciated

THE INDEPENDENT PHOTOGRAPH



Indian Tiger by Philip Meech
Ref: 00108

TO ORDER A 12"X9" PRINT OF THIS PHOTOGRAPH PLEASE SEND A CHEQUE, FOR

£15 MADE PAYABLE TO

THE INDEPENDENT

PLEASE INCLUDE YOUR ADDRESS,

PHONE NUMBER AND QUOTE THE REFERENCE

NUMBER UNDERNEATH

THE PHOTOGRAPH ABOVE.

★

INDEPENDENT PHOTOGRAPHS,
THE INDEPENDENT, 1 CANADA SQUARE,
CANARY WHARF, LONDON E14 5DL

(ALLOW 28 DAYS FOR DELIVERY)

Photographs published in The Independent can be purchased by calling Independent Photographs on 0171-293 2534, subject to copyright and availability

TUESDAY POEM

TO THE LONDONERS
FROM 'IN 1940'
BY ANNA AKHMATOVA. TRANSLATED BY RICHARD MCKANE

Time is writing Shakespeare's twenty-fourth drama,
with a clear, dispassionate hand.
and for us, the partakers of this menacing feast,
it is better to read Hamlet, Julius Caesar or King Lear
by the molten lead river:
Better for us today to accompany the little dove Juliet
to the grave with torches and singing,
better to look through the window at Macbeth
and tremble with the hired murderer;
but not this, not this, not this,
this even we aren't capable of reading.

Our poems this week come from 'Poetry of the Second World War: an International Anthology', edited by Desmond Graham (Pimlico, £10)

JULY 15 1998

Sir Ralph Freeman

SIR RALPH Freeman was the former senior partner at the international civil engineering consultancy Freeman, Fox & Partners and the earliest surviving past-President of the Institution of Civil Engineers.

He was the son of the renowned structural engineer Sir Ralph Freeman, designer of the Sydney Harbour Bridge and founder of Freeman, Fox & Partners. He shared his father's passion for large bridge design and construction - a passion he passed to his son Anthony - and was responsible for the construction of many major projects including the vast Humber suspension bridge - the longest in the world at the time - the Medway Bridge and M2 motorway, the Auckland Harbour Bridge, the Forth Road Bridge, and the Severn and Wye Bridges.

Throughout his long career Freeman dedicated a huge amount of time to the profession through his work for the Institution of Civil Engineers, culminating with his presidency in 1966-67. But his skills also crossed over to the lighter side of engineering, recognised by his knighthood in 1970 while serving as consulting engineer to the Queen, responsible for the upkeep of Sandringham Park, a post he was appointed to in 1949. He was also responsible for managing construction of the South Bank Exhibition, the main showcase for the Festival of Britain in 1951.

Ralph Freeman was born in 1911 and educated at Uppingham School, Leicestershire, and Worcester College, Oxford, where he gained an honours degree in Engineering Science. As a student he worked during the vacations for the steelwork fabricator Dorman Long, both in its Middlesbrough steel works and in London on the construction of Lambeth Bridge and the widening of Putney Bridge across the River Thames.

After graduating, his passion for bridge construction took him to Rhodesia and South Africa with Dorman Long where he spent seven years, from 1932 to 1939, in contracting, building mainly long-span bridges but also the steelworks in Pretoria. It was on one of his long sea trips to Rhodesia that he met Joan Rose from Cape Town. They married in 1939.

His work in Southern Africa included the 320m-span steel Otto Beit suspension bridge across the Zambezi at Chirundu and the 330m steel arch Birchenough Bridge over the Sabi River. Between these two projects he spent six months in Denmark working on the 3.1km steel girder road and rail Storsstrom Bridge and then for Braithwaite & Co on an oil pipeline jetty in the Medway. He finally returned to the UK in 1939 to join Freeman, Fox & Partners to work mainly on the design and construction of the Royal Naval Propellant factory in Caerwent, Monmouthshire.

His engineering work did not stop during the war. Freeman served in the Royal Engineers and worked as a Captain in the Experimental Bridging Establishment in Christchurch. There he was involved in the development of a special propeller military suspension bridge using Bailey Bridge components - a design later used with great success in Burma.

He was then seconded as chief engineer to 21 Army Group to advise on the construction of Bailey Bridges in France, Belgium, Holland and Germany. In 1945 he was appointed MBE (Military) and made Knight of the Orange-Nassau (Netherlands) for his war-time efforts. He continued his military links in civilian life by serving in the Territorial Army Volunteer Reserve and was made commanding officer of the Engineer and Railway Staff Corp in 1969, a post he held for the maximum permitted five-year period.

After the war he rejoined Freeman, Fox and was made a partner in 1947. Two years later he was appointed consulting engineer to King George VI to look after Sandringham Park, an honorary position he continued under Queen Elizabeth until he retired in 1976. He oversaw a variety of building alterations including the complete overhaul of the central heating system - a job which prompted him to describe himself as "the Queen's plumber".

Freeman, Fox's growing reputation for structural excellence led to the award in 1949 of a major commission design and co-ordinate construction of buildings for the South Bank Exhibition as part of the Festival of Britain. This included the spectacular steel-framed and aluminium-clad Dome of Discovery exhibition hall - a structure which commanded almost as much controversy as today's Dome at Greenwich.

After the sudden death of his father in early 1950, Freeman assumed personal responsibility for the project. It was completed to a very tight timescale in time for the Festival opening. He was appointed CBE in 1952 for his contribution to it.

The 1950s were an extremely busy time for the expanding Freeman, Fox partnership, based mainly around Freeman's love and knowledge of bridges. The firm also took on major commissions around the world to build thermal and hydro-electric power stations including the Festiniog pumped storage power station in Wales. By 1958

his reputation for large bridge construction led to the invitation to join an international team of engineers to investigate the partial collapse of a huge cantilever highway bridge under construction in Vancouver in Canada.

Freeman took over as senior partner at Freeman, Fox in 1963, a position he held until he retired at the age of 68 in 1979. During this time he spearheaded the firm's work on many of the biggest projects in the world at the time. These included the M2 and M5 motorways, the Forth Road Bridge, the Severn Bridge, both Bosphorus Bridges in Turkey and the cross-harbour tunnel and mass transit rail systems in Hong Kong. He was also intimately involved in the aftermath of the catastrophic collapse in 1970 of steel box

girder bridges in Milford Haven and across the River Yarra in Melbourne.

His career culminated with the construction of the huge Humber Estuary crossing near Hull. When it finally opened in 1981, two years after Freeman's retirement, it was the longest single-span suspension bridge in the world, 1410m between its two 185m-high pylons. The steel deck design used state-of-the-art streamlining to reduce the wind loading and set new standards for suspension bridge design and construction around the world.

Freeman had become a member of the Institution of Civil Engineers in 1937 and a Fellow in 1946. He was elected a member of Council 1951-56 and again in 1956-61 before becoming President in November 1966.

Even after his retirement Sir

In his presidential address he stressed the need for all branches of engineers to work more closely together and to disseminate information, knowledge and training more effectively through the ranks - themes still discussed at length today. To this end he was a Fellow of the American Society of Civil Engineers from 1948, President of the Welding Institute 1957-58 and an Honorary Fellow of both the Institution of Mechanical Engineers and the Zimbabwe Institution of Engineers.

Throughout his career he wrote many learned papers and received the Telford Premium Prize with his co-author Sir Hubert Shirley-Smith - president a year after Freeman - for a paper on the Birchenough and Otto Beit Bridges in Rhodesia.

His abundant energy and enthusiasm meant he was able to pack a variety of interests into his life around his engineering. As chairman of the Limpfield Common management committee 1957-82 he successfully chaired an appeal to raise funds and transfer the common to the National Trust in 1972. Like his father, he was the engineering member of the Royal Fine Art Commission and served on the Board of Governors of Westminster Hospital. In 1964 he was made a CVO and two years later he became a member of the Advisory Council for Scientific Research and Development (Army), later the Defence Scientific Advisory Council.

Even after his retirement Sir

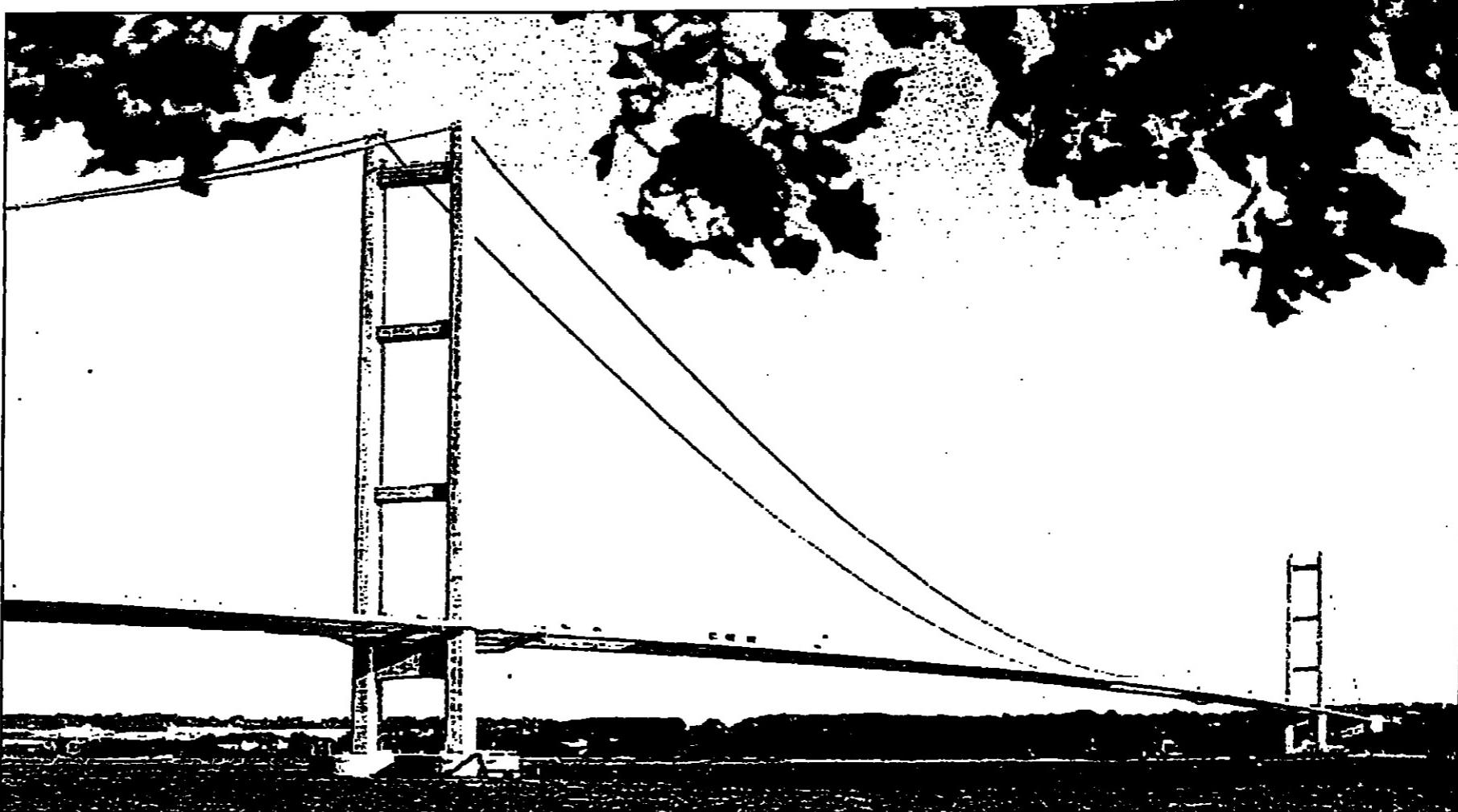
Ralph Freeman kept an active interest in civil engineering, particularly through the work of his eldest son, Anthony, who tragically died in July as a result of injuries sustained in an accident on the Vasco da Gama bridge in Lisbon in April 1997.

Father and son would talk continuously of their latest adventures in bridge design and construction whenever they met up. In later years they discussed problems and ideas by telephone and Sir Ralph had a fax machine specially installed at home to transmit diagrams and sketches to and from Anthony around the world.

Freeman's other passions included playing golf, sailing yachts and wood and metal work. He was a prolific writer and a regular contributor to the letters pages of the profession's magazine *New Civil Engineer*, always putting his point forcefully but thoughtfully.

ANTONY OLIVER

Ralph Freeman, civil engineer; born London 3 February 1911; MBE 1945; CBE 1952; Partner, Freeman, Fox & Partners 1947-79; Senior Partner 1962-79; Consulting Engineer to the Queen for Sandringham Estate 1949-76; Vice-President, Institution of Civil Engineers 1962-66, President 1966-67; CVO 1964; Kt 1970; married 1939 Joan Rose (one son, one daughter and one son deceased); died Limpfield, Surrey 24 August 1998.



The Humber Bridge, designed by Freeman, Fox & Partners. It held the record of the world's longest span bridge from when it opened in 1981 until earlier this year



Freeman spearheaded the firm's work on many of the then biggest projects in the world. These included the M2 and M5 motorways, the Forth Road Bridge, the Severn Bridge, both Bosphorus Bridges in Turkey and the cross-harbour tunnel and mass transit rail systems in Hong Kong

his reputation for large bridge construction led to the invitation to join an international team of engineers to investigate the partial collapse of a huge cantilever highway bridge under construction in Vancouver in Canada.

Freeman took over as senior partner at Freeman, Fox in 1963, a position he held until he retired at the age of 68 in 1979. During this time he spearheaded the firm's work on many of the biggest projects in the world at the time. These included the M2 and M5 motorways, the Forth Road Bridge, the Severn Bridge, both Bosphorus Bridges in Turkey and the cross-harbour tunnel and mass transit rail systems in Hong Kong. He was also intimately involved in the aftermath of the catastrophic collapse in 1970 of steel box

girder bridges in Milford Haven and across the River Yarra in Melbourne.

His career culminated with the construction of the huge Humber Estuary crossing near Hull. When it finally opened in 1981, two years after Freeman's retirement, it was the longest single-span suspension bridge in the world, 1410m between its two 185m-high pylons. The steel deck design used state-of-the-art streamlining to reduce the wind loading and set new standards for suspension bridge design and construction around the world.

Freeman had become a member of the Institution of Civil Engineers in 1937 and a Fellow in 1946. He was elected a member of Council 1951-56 and again in 1956-61 before becoming President in November 1966.

Even after his retirement Sir

Jerry Clower



PATRICK BAILEY was one of Britain's finest and foremost geographical educators. Over the years, he did much to promote Geography as a school subject and to enhance the teaching of the subject in schools.

Born in 1925, after leaving school and spending time in the Royal Navy, Bailey studied Geography at Corpus Christi College, Cambridge, from 1947 to 1951 and subsequently at McGill University, Montreal. For much of his professional career, he taught at the School of Education, Leicester University, in the latter years combining this with undergraduate teaching in the Geography Department.

Before coming to Leicester in 1969, Bailey had taught in Norfolk. His first post was at Paston Grammar School, from where he moved on to become Head of Geography at Wycombe Abbey. Later he was Principal Lecturer at Northumbria College of Education at Ponteland from 1964 to 1968, where he met and subsequently married Peggy, his lifetime companion.

Bailey was a central figure in the activities of the Geographical Association, both nationally and locally for many years. He was editor of the very valuable *Teaching Geography* publication in the period 1974 to 1985. In 1997, he was made an honorary member of the association for his

contributions to Geography. In the late Eighties, he was significantly President of the association at a time when Geography was obliged by the then Secretary of State for Education, Sir Keith Joseph, to justify its place in the school curriculum. In *A Case for Geography* (1987, co-edited with Tony Binns), a spirited advocacy of the subject was argued on behalf of the members of the Geographical Association.

At the local level, in the flourishing Leicestershire Geographical Association, Bailey was indefatigable in his support for a wide range of activities, organising conferences for sixth-formers, giving frequent lectures and chairing sessions in his own inimitable style.

He was a prolific writer of books, articles and reviews. He was the author of *The Norwich Area* (1971) in the British Landscapes series, and also of *Teaching Geography* (1974). His last major publication for the association, the *Geography Teachers' Handbook* (1986), which he co-edited with Peter Fox, was a mammoth effort which will be an indispensable text for many years to come.

Many geography teachers who received their initial teacher training at Leicester, and more recently at Loughborough, where he taught part-time following his retirement

from Leicester, have much to thank him for. He set and expected very high standards in all that he did; course planning, supporting students in their teaching and, not least, in his own teaching.

His talks were a role model for

students and teachers alike, honed to a very high standard; a choice quotation, an original stent, a skillfully crafted argument, superb illustrations - slides, field sketches, maps and diagrams were his trademark.

Bailey's enthusiasm for his subject was infectious, his love of teaching boundless - sometimes he even found it difficult not to intervene in the classroom when advising and supporting students on teaching practice. He was equally at ease introducing interested lay people into the delights of town trails and countryside walks.

Behind the teacher/scholar,

Patrick Bailey was a very compassionate, thoughtful and caring man, generous in his praise of work done well, and very supportive of his close colleagues as well as his tutes. It was a measure of his inner strength and belief - he was a Christian Scientist - that in spite of a very debilitating illness he continued to be stimulating, interested, alert, and active in promoting the cause of geographical education.

The award of an Honorary Fel-

lowship by the Royal Geographical Society shortly before his death, following similar recognition in Poland and Portugal, was a well deserved accolade and one of which he was justifiably proud.

ALAN SUTTON

Patrick John Mumford Bailey, geographer and educationist; born London 31 December 1925; Principal Lecturer in Geography, Northumbria College of Education, Ponteland 1964-68; Senior Lecturer in Education, Leicester University 1969-83; married 1968 Peggy Douglas; died Leicester 16 July 1998.

Karl Schirdewan

IN DAVID Childs's obituary of Karl Schirdewan [10 August] there is no significant error, writes Peter Barker.

Schirdewan was not born in Königsberg, but in Stettin. I recently came across this fact when researching an encyclopaedia entry on Schirdewan. In GDR reference works he always stated that he was born into a working-class family in

Königsberg, but he was hiding the fact that his real family came from Stettin and had a higher social status. The standard biographical work on the GDR, which has appeared since unification, *Wer war wer in der DDR*, repeated this mistake in its first edition (1994), but corrected it in its third edition of 1996 after the discovery of relevant files in the SED archive.

I WAS aware that there was controversy about the place of birth of Karl Schirdewan, writes Professor David Childs. However, as his friends in the PDS, who announced his death, kept to his claim that he was born in Königsberg, I felt it was right to leave it at that.

A significant number of Germans changed details of their place of birth after the Second World War for political reasons and it is not always possible to get proper verification, especially in towns which were overrun by the Red Army. Many of the files in Königsberg and Stettin were destroyed, causing great inconvenience for some and great opportunities for others. It will be interesting to see what appears in Schirdewan's autobiography which is due to appear shortly.

July 1st 1998



Sergio Fiorentino

THE PIANIST Sergio Fiorentino was an extraordinary artist who turned his back on the concert platform at the peak of his powers to concentrate on teaching and returned two decades later with formidable technique and musicality undiminished to an acclaim that most artists only dream of.

A critic wrote recently that Fiorentino's life appeared to consist of a hard luck history "that nearly outshines Shine", but that is true only insofar that Fiorentino was badly hurt in an air crash in 1954 which put a temporary end to illustrious engagements throughout Europe and America at a time when he was being described as the most promising pianist of his generation.

His later decision to remove himself entirely from public performance until the end of his life, while complex, was entirely his own and one he did not appear to regret.

A scholarship personally awarded by the Minister of Education took Fiorentino to the San Pietro Majella Conservatory in 1938, and although his teachers were among the most distinguished of their time he was fond of saying that his influences came from watching Alfred Cortot, Walter Gieseking and Edwin Fischer, or from listening to recordings, principally those of Rachmaninov playing his own music. Fiorentino had a special affinity with the music of the Russian master and it played an important and significant part in his repertoire throughout his life.

From 1947, the young virtuoso, small, slim and totally undemonstrative at the keyboard, began to be noticed in Europe. He was awarded first prize of the Concorso Rossomandi in Naples and the International Competition of his Academia Musicale Internazionale in Genoa. The leading agents sought him out and by 1953 he had made his American debut in the Carnegie Hall. All seemed set for

the predicted glittering career, but the following year while on tour in South America the aircraft carrying him crashed. He sustained a severe spinal injury and, for some time, paralysed. He could not physically play for some years and once told me that when he was able to return to the instrument he had to re-learn some of his technique.

By the late 1950s he decided to set about re-establishing himself and embarked on a series of recordings in Britain, principally for Sagra, Fidelity, Summit and their regularly reincarnated successors which often offered intriguing budget-priced repertoire at five shillings (25p) a time, but sometimes let down by playing surfaces which ap-

peared to have been prepared from a mixture of vinyl with fine road grit. Most were never reviewed as a result.

Through all this shone some magnificent playing: memorable recordings of the complete Rachmaninov preludes, a Brahms Handel Variations in which the opening mimicry of harpsichord appears never to have been equalled, and some Liszt recitals with deeply musical virtuosity. Added to this was a virtually complete survey of Chopin and performances of Bach-Busoni that alone would have set him apart as a performer.

Quite why he decided in 1974 to give up playing concerts and return to a professional role at the Conservatory where he had studied is not entirely

clear, but one suspects it was a combination of events allied to his self-effacing and non-combative temperament. He disliked the publicity machine that often went with concerts and although completely confident of his own ability at the keyboard was so modest that the tendency of promoters and record companies to compete for the "greatest pianist" accolade or to make comparisons genuinely appalled him. Quiet and unassuming, he fell ill at ease on the cocktail circuit simply because he could not see the purpose of it.

All these things, together with the generally unattractive life of an itinerant musician, led him to withdraw to the comparative obscurity of a teaching role.

Fiorentino's return to the platform must be one of the rare examples of an enthusiast persuading a professional to think again

peared to have been prepared from a mixture of vinyl with fine road grit. Most were never reviewed as a result.

This public loss was the gain of generations of pupils and many making their careers before the public today are proud to name him as a teacher and influence. His return to the platform, after his retirement from the Conservatory in 1993, must be one of the rare examples of an enthusiast persuading a professional artist to think again.

Ernst Lumen, a German record collector and a long-time admirer of the pianist through the 30 or so London recordings, had begun a friendship that led to an invitation to play publicly again in Germany. These engagements were in small local halls with a tiny audience and perhaps that is why Fiorentino responded to the idea. Whatever initial reservations he might have had

were quickly dispelled both by enthusiasm of Lumen (whose achievements cannot be overrated) and of audiences thrilled to discover this master pianist that often went with concerts and although completely confident of his own ability at the keyboard was so modest that the tendency of promoters and record companies to compete for the "greatest pianist" accolade or to make comparisons genuinely appalled him. Quiet and unassuming, he fell ill at ease on the cocktail circuit simply because he could not see the purpose of it.

When the knowledgeable Bryan Clegg, founder of APE Recordings and one of the best judges of the great pianists of this century, made a live tape of one of those performances and issued it to general acclamation, it marked the renaissance of Fiorentino and his return to the recording studio after a 30-year absence.

Everything began to happen for him. He was invited to China to give concerts and master classes and began to appear on the adjudication panels of various competitions as well as fitting in concerts at prestigious European events. What became annual appearances at the Newport Festival, where he was booked "for life", led to the sort of critical adulation that is rarely seen today. He was dubbed a pianist of the Golden Age and was lauded wherever he went.

Recording plans were laid into the new millennium but his death, at home suddenly and without suffering, means they will not be fulfilled. The deep musical insights which he used to turn the most familiar repertoire into a revelation and his understanding of composers from Bach to Scriabin will ensure that his name and stature remain at the forefront wherever great piano playing is appreciated.

ALAN M. WATKINS

Sergio Fiorentino, pianist; born Naples, Italy 22 December 1927; married; died Naples 22 August 1998.

BIRTHS, MARRIAGES & DEATHS

DEATHS

KERSLAKE: Mr George W. Kerslake, who before retirement worked for the London Co-operative Society, was a lifetime member of the Labour Party and a trade unionist, was active in the trade union movement. Mr Kerslake is survived by his daughter Pauline, and son-in-law, Colonel W. Andrew Williams, of Middlebury, Vermont, USA. Services will be held Thursday 3 September at 3.30pm, East London Crematorium, Grange Road, Plaistow, E13. Enquiries: T. Cribb & Sons, 0171-761855.

ANNOUNCEMENTS FOR GAZETTE
BIRTHS, MARRIAGES & DEATHS (Births, Adoptions, Marriages, Deaths, Memorial services, Wedding anniversaries, In memoriam) are charged at £10 per line, VAT extra. OTHER General announcements (notices, funeral notices, forthcoming marriages, Marriages), which must be submitted in writing, are charged at £10 per line, VAT extra. Always include a daytime telephone number.

The Independent's main switchboard number is 0171-293 2000.

BIRTHDAYS

Mr Komei Abe, composer, 87; **Sir Kenneth Bradshaw**, former Clerk of the House of Commons, 76; **Mr Richard Burden MP**, 44; **Sir David Carter**, chief medical officer, Scottish Office Department of Health, 55; **Professor Ronald Cooke**, Vice-Chancellor, York University, 57; **Mr Richard Edis**, ambassador to Tunisia, 55; **Mr Gwynfor Evans**, honorary president, Plaid Cymru, 86; **Mrs Margaret Ewing MP**, 53; **Air Chief Marshal Sir Robert Freer**, 75; **Mr Barry Gibb**, singer, 52; **Mr Allen Jones**, artist, 61; **Mr Fraser Kemp MP**, 40; **Baroness Park of Monmouth**, former Principal, Somerville College, Oxford, 77; **Lord Parkinson**, former government minister, 67; **Mrs Jessica Pearce**, ambassador to Belarus, 41; **Mr Milton Shulman**, film and theatre critic, 80; **Lord Thomson of Fleet**, newspaper proprietor, 74.

ANNIVERSARIES
Births: Edward Alleyn, actor and founder of Dulwich Col-

lege, 1566; Marguerite Gardiner, Countess Blessington, writer and journalist, 1789; Zerah Colburn, infant prodigy in mathematics, 1804; Amilcare Ponchielli, composer, 1834; Engelbert Humperdinck, composer, 1854; Baron Carl Auer von Welsbach, chemist, inventor of the gas mantle, 1858; Sir Roger David Casement, conspirator for Irish nationalism, 1864; "Gentleman Jim" James John Corbett, heavyweight boxer, 1866; Edgar Rice Burroughs, novelist and creator of "Tarzan", 1875; Sir Marshall Sir Robert Freer, 1914; nearly 200,000 people were killed in earthquakes in Tokyo and Yokohama, 1923; Albania was declared a kingdom, and Zog I became king, 1928; Poland was invaded by Germany, and Danzig Free City was seized, 1939; after overthrowing King Idris I, Colonel Muammar Gadaffi seized power in Libya, 1969; Qatar became independent, 1971.

Deaths: Hadrian IV, Pope (Nicholas Breakspeare, the only Englishman to be Pope), 1153; Jacques Cartier, explorer, 1557; Louis XIV, the "Sun King" of France, 1715; Sir Richard Steele, essayist and playwright, 1729; William Yarrell, zoologist, 1856; Samuel Coleridge-Taylor, composer, 1912; Guy Burgess, defector, 1963; Siegfried Lorraine Sassoon, poet and writer, 1967; Francois Mauriac, poet and novelist, 1970.

ROYAL ENGAGEMENTS

The Duke of York visits the Alfred McAlpine Stadium in Huddersfield, West Yorkshire; visits the Kirklees Media Centre Cyber Cafe, Huddersfield; as Patron, the Fire Service Sports and Athletics Association, attends the opening ceremony of the Fire Services European Voluntary Championships at the Huddersfield Sports Centre; and visits the Beffry, Sutton Coldfield, West Midlands.

CHANGING OF THE GUARD

The Household Cavalry Mounted Regiment mounts the Queen's Life Guard at Horse Guards, 11am.

LECTURES

National Gallery: Lynda Stephens, "Picturing Women (I): female portraits of the Italian Renaissance", 1pm. Wallace Collection, London W1: Grania Lyster, "Dutch and Flemish Landscape Painting", 1pm.

HISTORICAL NOTES

FINIAN CUNNINGHAM

The political fall-out from Hiroshima



WHEN THE US Air Force dropped the atomic bombs 53 years ago on Hiroshima and Nagasaki, mankind had, as Albert Camus put it, "surely reached its final degree of savagery".

The accepted explanation for why the administration of President Harry Truman dropped the bombs was that it brought a swift end to the Pacific war and thus saved many more lives than those lost at Hiroshima and Nagasaki. This first and only use of atomic weapons was, it has been claimed, a classic case of the end justifying the means.

But what if this "end" is shown to be false, and the real reason for the atomic holocaust was not the swift termination of hostilities but an entirely different purpose, namely the staking out of Western geopolitical territory in the emerging post-war world order?

From April 1945 American officials calculated that using the atomic bomb would enormously bolster US diplomacy vis-à-vis the Soviet Union in negotiations over both post-war Europe and the Far East. The ascendancy of "atomic diplomacy" coincided with the presidential succession of the fiercely anti-Communist Truman.

A defining moment of the new diplomacy occurred during the Potsdam conference on 13 July when Truman was cabled from Washington on the success of the "Trinity" test explosion in the New Mexico desert. It was the first practical demonstration of awesome atomic power.

The news transformed Truman's diplomacy at Potsdam. He immediately began dominating the proceedings, telling the Russians "where to get on and off". Possession of the bomb gave Truman the "master card" over the Soviets, recorded the US war secretary Henry Stimson.

A defining moment of the new diplomacy occurred during the Potsdam conference on 13 July when Truman was cabled from Washington on the success of the "Trinity" test explosion in the New Mexico desert. It was the first practical demonstration of awesome atomic power.

The news transformed Truman's diplomacy at Potsdam. He immediately began dominating the proceedings, telling the Russians "where to get on and off". Possession of the bomb gave Truman the "master card" over the Soviets, recorded the US war secretary Henry Stimson.

The Soviets planned to enter the Pacific war against Japan on 9 August; the Western allies were anxious they should not gain any geopolitical territory in rich Asia, as they had done in Europe.

During the summer of 1945 when the Japanese empire began rapidly to collapse, the first concern of Truman and his inner circle was not the further loss of American lives, but the further loss of political ground in the new world order taking shape.

Japan may have been the military target of the US atomic attack first on Hiroshima

on 6 August, and then three days later on Nagasaki, but there seems little doubt from the evidence that the ultimate political target was Moscow.

On hearing of the annihilation of two Japanese cities in which 95 per cent of the victims were civilian, Josef Stalin was said to have been "frozen". The Soviets had no nuclear weapon project and may not even have had the rudiments of the theory.

The bombing of Hiroshima and Nagasaki turned out to be not the last act of the Second World War but the first act of the Cold War. It was a deliberate act of aggression by the US, designed to lay down the most terrifying marker on the new world order to the Soviets.

By 1948, however, the Soviet Union had tested its first atomic bomb. Fear and distrust in international relations had become entrenched and the world was now forced to live under the shadow of mutually assured destruction.

The fall-out from the atomic attack on Hiroshima and Nagasaki was inestimably far-reaching; all malignant manifestations of the nuclear age can be traced to that fateful decision to drop the bombs.

It is important to lay bare the bankrupt moral authority of great power status. It provides an important step towards getting rid of all nuclear weapons – by uncovering the real causes of history, we may be spared its horrendous repetition.

Hiroshima's Shadow – writings on the denial of history is published by Central Books (£20.90)

A mirror in which every age sees its reflection

THE INDEPENDENT ARCHIVE

1 SEPTEMBER 1988

Richard Eyre takes over today as Director of the National Theatre. He presents here his manifesto for action

in them not the past throwing a shadow on the present, but an image of ourselves. The classics survive because of what they mean to us now.

But we have to keep rediscovering ways of doing them. They do not have absolute meanings. There is no fixed, frozen way of doing them. When there is talk of "classical acting" what is often meant is an acting style that instead of revealing the truth of a text for the present day reveals the bombast of yesterday. "Dog acting", a friend of mine calls it: cocking a leg on the furniture, barking heartily, and growling to display all the emotions from A to B.

The larger part of our classical repertoire is the collection of plays written between 1580 and 1640. Almost all these are in verse, and there's the rub. Any attempt to come to terms with them must confront their form; the life of the plays is in the language, not alongside it or underneath it. It's impossible to overestimate the difficulties. The decay of language as an expressive force is evident everywhere, and it is hardly surprising that it is rare to find young actors who have a grasp of verse speaking.

If we are to tackle those plays where language is the principal mode of expression we have to be prepared to embrace the difficulties rather than ignore them. A truly successful Shakespeare performance is about as rare as a dry day in June, but when seen it is, as Coleridge said of Keats, "like reading Shakespeare by flashes of lightning".

Every age sees its own reflection in these plays. We find

From "The Independent", Thursday 1 September 1988

WORDS

WILLIAM HARTSTON

petard, n.

Petard and a Home Security firm called Petard. A non-hoist petard without a capital P is a rare creature indeed.

A petard was a type of battering ram with an explosive head. To be hoist with one's own petard is to be blown up with one's own weapons: "For 'tis the sport to have the engineer hoist with his own petard" (*Hamlet*, Act III, scene 4).

The word has a nice etymology: it comes from the same root as the French verb *pétier*, to break wind.

On your bike: this is war

Cyclists think they're doing the world a favour. To other road users they're a lawless menace. Pedal rage, anyone? By Darius Sanai

LAST WEEK Weston-super-Mare resolved to do its bit to halt global warming by lending a load of bikes to young people. Little do the good people of Weston know what trouble they have stored up for themselves with this apparently worthy gesture.

They will learn. The summer truce is over and one of the world's most vicious gang wars is set to break out, with renewed ferocity, across the streets of Britain. From Dover to Dundee the hardened gang members are honing their weapons and preparing for battle. Unlike the pampered denizens of Los Angeles and the Chicago South Side, Britons will not be sheltered from the fighting if they stay clear of the ghettos: this turf war is taking place on every highway and byway. And it's lethal: every year, people get killed, more are wounded, and thousands of others are left quivering in their seats as witnesses to the mindless carnage.

The war is a universal one and the gangs incorporate virtually every citizen of the United Kingdom, whether they want to belong or not. For all of us have, at one time, been pedestrians, cyclists, bikers or motorists. John Prescott may talk about making our roads safer, happier places but, as Britain's population is brought up to normal again by the return from the Costas, the ugly truth will dawn. It's war out there. Our street violence is a serious business: 973 pedestrians were killed last year, as were 2,826 other road-users, and even the

most seemingly innocuous battles can be deadly: six cyclists and pedestrians died last year after crashing into each other.

Last year, a grandmother chased a 13-year-old cyclist and knocked him down with her car; a fireman repeatedly bashed the head of a cyclist against a wall; a cyclist threw his bike at the windscreens of a car. Martin Shaw was attacked by a bus-driver after shouting at him for cutting him up as he cycled down a London street.

No matter how much cyclists believe they are doing the rest of the world a favour, the rest of the traffic – whether motorised or on foot – does not agree.

"They're a menace," said one man, walking his dog gingerly along the pavement. "They take no notice of red lights or pedestrians, whether it's a pram or a pushchair. What's worse, they knock you over as they cycle past, and then look back with a gesture of contempt. In the great battle for the pecking order, they think they have moral superiority. They feel they're victims of trucks, but to us pedestrians they are just as much bullies as any trucks."

London cabbies are scarcely less irate, but the object of their ire are other road users of all descriptions. Raymond Games, a 47-year-old London taxi-driver, said: "What amazes me is so many pedestrians act like they're blind. I've seen a woman walk straight into the path of a cab in front of me – bam!" He thumps his fist into his hand. "I used to keep wary all the time,

but now, if get another idiot stepping off the kerb without looking, I don't know that I'll slow down, even if I can". His mate, a spindly chap who didn't want to give his name, blames motorbikes. "You're sitting at the lights and five of those couriers slip in and stand in front of you. You gotta try not to lose it in this job, but I've half a mind

sick of getting out of their way when they do something stupid. In a car I can just put my foot down in this and get out of trouble." Others are more protective of the vulnerable creatures on two wheels.

"This guy was driving like an idiot in this

Golf on the A3," said Paul Ross, a 31-year-old researcher who had stopped for petrol

'I used to keep wary all the time, but now, if I get another idiot stepping off the kerb without looking I don't know that I'll slow down even if I can'

to step on it and flatten 'em all." He laughs wheezily. "Maybe I could get stickers, like stick one inside my cab for everyone I get."

"If cyclists want to cut me up that's their problem," said Wayne McKinsey, who was reloading his red Peugeot 306 GTI at the Texaco station on the Talgarth Roundabout. "I'm not trying to hit them, but I'm

"He was weaving in and out of all the busy lanes, and he almost killed a guy on a motorcycle – he had to swerve to get out of his way." So did Paul take him on?

"No, I called the local police station on my mobile phone and told them what was going on. They said they'd go round to his house with a warning."

In the end, he says, "it's not cyclists that hold them up. It's other cars." So they're just jealous.

The cyclists on Critical Mass believe that hogging the road is a neat turn-

around from the normal situation when they are squeezed out, often dangerously, by motor vehicles.

Even the normally serene spokeswoman from the Department of Transport was moved to fury when I brought up the question of which gang, statistically, was most dangerous to belong to.

"I'll tell you what's dangerous," she snapped. "It's bloody dangerous to be a pedestrian, because of all the cyclists on the bloody pavement! That's what's dangerous. You tell them it's illegal, I got rear-ended walking down Whitehall last week."

One cyclist claimed to have been flattened more than once by motorists – and in one case, a black cab – pulling out of side turnings without looking.

"You're completely vulnerable," he said. "Drivers tear past you without leaving an inch to spare. They just never look for you."

She also had an explanation for the fury so often displayed by cyclists in any confrontation with drivers – one which the good citizens of Weston-super-Mare might do well to heed.

"It's fear."

You're never too young to be old

How does it feel to be old? Twenty-five-year-old Alex Hayes put on goggles, ear plugs and a helpless manner and went to find out

WHEN YOU are young and fit, it's hard to sympathise with the limitations of old age. Young people are more likely to see and rev their engines than to empathise with the little old lady wobbling slowly across the road.

With the aim of increasing understanding of the handicaps of old age, I have been muscled into taking part in Through Other Eyes – a scientific experiment to raise people's awareness of a very real social problem. In other words, show us how it actually feels to be old. I was escorted on this mission by Gaby Brooks and Sharon Steele of Age Concern.

Age Concern believes that most of the younger population have no idea how difficult it is for some elderly people to perform everyday tasks such as open a milk carton or shop, let alone deal with more arduous chores. "Our ultimate aim is for people to realise how their mother or granny might feel," explains Ms Steele. "Once you see how your close relatives are struggling, your attitude towards the aged automatically changes. The next time you're at a supermarket till or behind a slow-moving elderly lady in the street, you're likely to show more patience."

The experiment involves wearing ankle and wrist weights to simulate loss of strength and agility; putting on specially prepared goggles, to represent cataracts, tunnel vision and retina damage, and inserting ear plugs to reduce hearing.

According to the charity's research, "the United Kingdom is an ageing society and, by the year 2026, half the adult population will be aged 55 or over. It is also significant that 80 per cent of the UK's private wealth is in the hands of people over 50, who are also the biggest spenders in every sector".

Significant because supermarkets, department stores and other services obviously need older buyers. Fail to accommodate their needs and you risk alienating a large share of your target audience. Ms Steele admits that the original reason for companies showing an interest in the scheme is economic. "But, after their staff have done our workshop, their attitudes do change."

At first all the contraptions make me feel very self-conscious and unsure. "That's exactly how most old people feel," Ms Steele points out. "Many of them lose confidence when they go out especially if they are in a foreign environment." I certainly struggled. The weights (half a kilo around my wrist and one kilo around my ankle) weren't too cumbersome, but the inflatable orange armband did cut off the circulation in my arm. If I had had to carry shopping bags for any length of time, I would have found the experience difficult, if not impossible. The surgical gloves on each hand also made simple tasks more awkward, as did the goggles.

The combination of these two impairments was truly challenging. When paying for some flowers, which I could barely see, I struggled desperately to get change out of my pocket, let alone differentiate between the various coins. Had my manner changed significantly when I was "old"? "You were definitely affected," says Ms Steele. "When you were buying the flowers, you cocked your

head to hear the vendor clearly. And you crossed the street over-cautiously, even though the traffic had stopped."

So will I now be more sympathetic towards older people? "The aim of the workshop is not for people to feel sorry for the aged and tip-toe around them. A lot of them actually cope very well with their disabilities. What we're trying to say is that there's no need for some of the present barriers to be there."

These "barriers" are often small, seemingly insignificant obstacles, which prove insurmountable for the elderly. "For example, the colour schemes that some organisations use to promote their products prevent older people from seeing the price on the tag. Another example is the excessive use of mirrors in shops. It can be very confusing and disorientating. These are artificial barriers; aesthetic additions which serve no practical purpose. I mean, why put a stair in a building if it's not needed?"

Age Concern has carried out its workshop in large companies such as Safeway

and Nestle. The workshops take half a day, cost between £595 to £895, and can accommodate a maximum of 12 people. And the scheme is making waves. Earlier this year British Gas agreed to sponsor them. "They give us money to develop the programme, market it and renew some of the equipment."

On a personal level, my greatest achievement was threading a needle and sewing a button on to a piece of fabric despite my blurry vision and shaking hands. Now, for someone with a dreadful sewing record (one poorly sewn shirt-button in 25 years), this was no mean feat. Ironically though – now that the contraptions have been removed – I will have to wait 40 odd years before I sew as expertly again. In the meantime, old people around Britain will continue raking it in on Bingo night. That's the injustice of being young.

For further information about Age Concern, call 0800 00 99 66; or contact Sharon Steele on 01543 504640 or Gabriella Brooks on 0181-679 8000

REVELATIONS

RALPH STEADMAN, LOUISVILLE, 1970



very proper accent telling officials I'd come all the way from the London Times. It was a completely irresponsible way of going about journalism – no story became a story. Hunter ended up writing about what happened to us; he hadn't even started his writing while I was doing my drawings. We turned failure into a virtue – that was Gonzo. Hunter and I are chalk and cheese – that was the bond. Although entirely different, I was watching people in a way he was leeching into. I was leeching on to his use of language. Two

different types of leeches doing the same thing.

Hunter also taught me that when I was doing something outrageous to double the outrage. Together we slipped in between the boats in the America's cup to write: FUCK THE POPE along the side of one of them with a spray can. We did have some noble purpose, though it was a jailable offence. These boats were manned by rednecks, some of them Catholics, and the idea of seeing them sailing into the harbour with that graffiti on their hull was a brilliant political concept. We then rushed back to our boat and let off distress flares up into the bay, to symbolise our failure, and set some yachts on fire. It deflected attention, and we were able to get away.

I had the idea that there was a wicked world out there. My mother defended me so well. Hunter would criticise me for being so English and "nice" – it's a horrible word. I needed to meet somebody to blast me out of that cocoon. It took me a long time to

reach the frame of mind where I decide the image – irrespective of the story that I'm illustrating. I don't give a shit if somebody understands it or not. I like it, I appreciate it and if I'm enjoying it – someone else will too. That's something else I learned from Hunter: "if you're chicken-livered, forget it. You'll never achieve anything. But if you want to take the ride, you pay for the whole ride." The edge can be very creative. It made me realise that the real enemy are; I know who I'm after. Previously my anger had no purpose or direction. I chose to draw one person over another normally out of the desire to throttle them. Not a murderous thought, just that I couldn't stand the way their nose twitched; how some people moved their mouth was infuriating. I was going through life unable to stand the sight of people. Meeting Hunter S. Thompson made me laugh at it. By easing off, I began to do outrageous things with my cartoons instead.

If I go on making mischief, I

think it will be more in books – I'm not very keen on the fish-wrap approach of newspapers. If I'm doing something I want it to last, so people can look back at an opinion from that time and discover that it may still be relevant. But it would be funny if someone tried to wrap fish and chips in my new book, perhaps I should buy a portion and eat them out of it! That's Gonzo!

I have curbed my tendency to stare, judge and hate people partly with the help of therapy, because I began to think it was me that was the problem. I did three months; strangely enough the therapist's name was Dr Thompson... I think it would be worse if I stopped drawing, and didn't recycle my observations. It could become very unhealthy – at least now there is an excuse. It's for art, so I can do anything I want. Otherwise I'd be prosecuted as a stalker.

'Gonzo – The Art' is published by Weidenfeld & Nicolson, price £25
INTERVIEW BY ANDREW G MARSHALL

"DO YOU want to meet an ex-hell's angel who shaves his head?"

Being in America to look for work, my reply was yes. That's how I found this buddy, this soul mate, Hunter S. Thompson: our assignment was to cover the prestigious Kentucky Derby in Louisville. There was this fat six guy with a chiselled bone head – it looked like a bullet – set on shoulders that didn't need any more muscle. Hunter could have been an American footballer. He had huge feet size 12 or even 14 – in these flat plimsoll-type things he used to wear. I've always tried to find a pair of shoes to suit me, but he found one early on. Hunter found out everything early on; he wanted to be a great writer but was rejected by the Athenaeum Literary Heritage Club of Louisville. So he was home to enact some kind of revenge. He didn't want a photographer, he wanted an artist who could find the face of Kentucky. I thought: Jesus, he's lived a totally different life to me. I was 33; most people would be in

their stride by then but I wasn't. But Hunter had been told I could give as good as I got, and I did. I climbed into his red whale of a car, with two buckets of beer on ice behind the front seats, and went to meet his brother. So far I had made no sketches, or notes, too intimidated to do either. But my head was buzzing with strange impressions. I pull myself into a black tube and a fine hissing sound. My eyes began to sting and everybody screamed. Hunter yelled at me to get out! What he did was even worse – all I do is look at people. But he saved me. It was the first time I realised that what I do can be construed as a rather unpleasant habit. How dare I make these rather presumptuous comments about somebody I'm staring at?

The act of Gonzo might be just as mindless as soccer hooligans but Hunter and I went out of our way to actually do something – making out that we were bona fide journalists covering the Kentucky Derby. We got in because I was speaking in my

Stopped 60 times, never arrested

The police are eight times more likely to stop a black man than a white. Just ask Oluwa. By Sebastian Naidoo



Oluwa Kubweza has been stopped 60 times in his jeep: 'I've asked several times whether they're stopping me because I'm black'

Neville Elder

HIS FIRST time was at the age of 15. By his late teens he'd lost track of how many pricks he'd had. Ten years later he reckons it happens about once a month. And now he hardly breaks out in a sweat.

"There's never been a reason for me to run into the police," says 27-year-old Oluwa Kubweza from behind the wheel of his black Vitara jeep. "I've never been arrested or taken into custody. My cars have always been legal. I've got to the stage where I say as little as possible. I know the score. I give them my details, and ask for the product," he says.

Mr Kubweza has been stopped more than 60 times over the past six years. He is a physics graduate and is currently working as a sales executive for a Surrey advertising company. He is also a regular at his local police station in Tottenham, north London, where he goes to "produce" his driving licence and insurance documents when asked.

I try to rationalise their behaviour. I've asked several times whether they're stopping me because I'm black. They say they're just doing routine checks," he says. "Once when I asked, we ended up in verbal abuse. He swore at me, saying all blacks are muggers."

On another occasion, a gun was wielded over him by a plain-clothes officer who had pursued him along a London artery in a high-speed chase on his way home from a night-shift at work.

At times, Mr Kubweza threads through side streets to avoid patrolled areas. When security was tightened after bomb blasts

in the City and Docklands areas of London, he was persistently stopped and searched at a string of checkpoints.

Black people are up to eight times more likely than white people to be stopped and searched, according to a recent analysis of Home Office data by Statewatch, an independent police monitor. The first detailed ethnic breakdown of police stops and searches across England and Wales showed over 100 stops and searches of black people per 1,000 of the local black population in Cleveland, Dyfed Powys, Merseyside and the Met. There were less than 50 stops and searches of white people per 1,000 in the same areas.

A Home Office report published a few weeks ago shows that a disproportionate number of arrests of black people are dropped due to weak evidence. It explains: "The police sometimes view members of ethnic minority groups and black people in particular as 'problematic'."

Maurice McLeod, a 29-year-old black journalist, kept a meticulous record of his stop and search encounters. They totalled 31 during the first three months of 1995, usually on the same west London route. He was never arrested.

Police officers can carry out a stop and search only if they have reasonable grounds for suspicion. They are obliged by law to fill out an incident form and tell a suspect of their right to a copy of the record.

"There is no legal reason for the stop and search of young black men in a majority of these cases," says human rights lawyer Sadiq Khan, who has dealt with about 50

cases of police misconduct stemming from stops and searches. "I have no doubt that this constitutes harassment." Mr Khan estimates that up to 80 per cent of his clients are young black men, vulnerable to wrongful arrests.

"We've plainly said we are stopping too many young black men for insufficiently good reasons," says former Lambeth Chief Inspector and borough liaison officer Alan O'Gorman. "If we can demonstrate... that

'We have plainly said we are stopping too many young black men for insufficiently good reasons'

we're working on it, public confidence will be greater, and [so will] the degree to which we police by consent."

Two routes are open to aggrieved people seeking a challenge against a police officer for what they believe to be abuse of power. Formal complaints – investigated by officers from a separate force under the supervision of the Police Complaints Authority (PCA) – offer the prospect of an officer being disciplined or criminally prosecuted. Of the 258 complaints for breaches of stop and

search rules recorded by the PCA for the year until the end of last March, 14 were "admonished".

It takes civil action for compensation against a police employer – usually a Chief Constable – to put stop and search records before a jury. Legal aid is available for the process, which can take as long as six years to complete. Court guidelines now limit damages to 50,000 pounds, awarded according to the severity of an abuse. An officer usually returns to work after a case is settled.

"What's the point of making a complaint? If I was lucky I'd get an insincere apology," says Mr Kubweza.

"Police officers freely interpret their code of conduct. I don't want a stop and search to depend on whether a particularly progressive officer is on duty," says Lee Jasper, who heads a black community group, the 1990 Trust. Making policy and practice match in this area is the job of a Home Office quango called the Specialist Support Unit, which has trained about 2,000 senior police officers in equality objectives.

"Our training starts from the premise that all police officers might have stereotypical perceptions that influence their behaviour (during a stop and search)," says the support unit's director and chief trainer, Jerome Mack.

Trainees memorise 10 commandments guaranteed to prevent conflict during a stop and search. In particular, they learn to avoid telling suspects to shut up or stand absolutely still, calling the suspect names, showing disrespect and assuming that

lack of eye contact indicates guilt.

Using role play and video to show reasonable grounds for a stop and search, the two-day cross-cultural course trains high-ranking officers how to identify suspicious behaviour in black communities. These officers are expected to pass on the skills.

But from next week PCs on the beat in the south London borough of Lambeth will get a direct lesson from Mr Mack. They will soon be reciting the 10 commandments as part of a fresh bid by the local police community consultative group to crush "bad apples" in the station and stamp out bad attitudes on the street.

Set in motion by Lord Scarman's recommendations following clashes in Brixton and Tottenham during the first half of the Eighties, and fuelled by concerns over zero tolerance tactics and the kind of policing for which the Notting Hill Carnival gained notoriety, the Lambeth consultative group has thrashed out its own peace plan.

The Community and Race Relations strategy puts local people on a committee to help steer key decisions about police recruitment, training and tackling institutional racism. It may become a model for other forces.

But not everyone is convinced. Mr Kubweza for one will need a bit more persuasion: "I grew up with the hassle. The longer it goes on, the more I just see the uniform. My only encounters have been negative. It's made me very anti-police. That's what experience has taught me. I can't see any way it's going to change."

Caution: police using imagination

PROTESTERS AT a recent peace demonstration outside the Faslane Defence Base in Scotland received a rude and painful shock when they were struck head-on by a carload of frustrated MoD officials.

But the real surprise came two minutes later when police arrested one dented protester for causing criminal damage to the car's bodywork.

If that incident seems bizarre, consider the case of Lawrence O'Dowd, an unemployed 18-year-old, who was arrested earlier this year for saying "Meow" to a police dog. The charge: using threatening words and behaviour.

Since 1995, the Brighton-based underground newsletter SchNews has collated a "crap arrests of the week" file containing hundreds of incidents. While the reports have a humorous side, they indicate that police sometimes make vexatious and frivolous arrests.

When in doubt, police make use of conditional charges involving suspicion. Three Brighton protesters who last year occupied virtually indestructible steel CCTV camera poles were arrested for "suspected criminal damage", while a Derry man, Liam Forbes, found himself under arrest for "behaviour likely to lead to a breach of the peace" after taking his coat off to reveal his team colours. All charges were thrown out by magistrates.

Arrests involving suspicion are particularly popular when dealing with demonstrators and activists who can then be held in custody for up to 24 hours, or barred from protest sites.

Take the case of the Newbury bypass protesters, who were pulled over by Thames Valley police while on their way to a demonstration. As they waited for some minutes on the roadside, one of the men unbuckled his seatbelt, and was promptly arrested – for not wearing a seatbelt.

One Sussex man, protesting outside the home of a Kent vet who signs live animal export certificates, was arrested for "causing alarm, distress and harassment" after he called a policeman by his first name, "George", then imposed bail conditions not to go within a 20-mile radius of Dover.

Later that month, during an Anti-Live Export action at Woodsfarm in Redditch, a woman was arrested for being in possession of a pair of nail-clippers. She was later released with the warning that if she took them on another action she would be charged with "going equipped".

A London Animal Rights' activist protesting outside a gun shop was arrested for possession of an offensive weapon – a bicycle lock. He was eventually released without charge.

Arrest can lead to more serious consequences. A man reliant on self-dialysis equipment was on his way to a demonstration at Hillgrove Farm, where cats are bred for vivisection. He was stopped by police, who then searched his car, discovered the medical kit, and arrested him on suspicion of using equipment to rescue the cats.

According to the SchNews report, the police claimed the boxes in his car were "cat boxes" and would be used to take liberated cats from the farm. The police wouldn't believe the boxes contained self-dialysis equipment which the man needs to use four times a day, even though "dialysis" was written all over them.

Before being taken to Oxford police station, the man was kept in a police van for two and a half hours. He was released 30 minutes before the deadline for his next dialysis, but it then took him another two and a half hours to get back to his car.

Two Christchurch men leaving a pub were asked by a passing policeman to reveal where they lived. When one replied "at home" the two were arrested and locked up for the night.

SIMON DAVIES

JOYS OF MODERN LIFE

12. E-MAIL BY GLENDA COOPER

tantrums on Boxing Day could be solved by ringing up Granmy instead of chaining the little dears to the kitchen table with their thank you notes, the written missive was doomed.

But e-mail is actually reviving the art of letter writing. Somewhere deep within every human lurks the desire to receive a communication which cannot be read by anyone else. Letters can be steamed open.

Faxes are seen by half the office. E-mails, however, can be opened easily, read, replied to and sent before even your closest neighbour has the merest sniff of what is going on.

In fact e-mail is the biggest boom in note and letter writing

before they were published so since the birth of the postal service and the invention of the postcard in the 19th century around a third of Americans and a quarter of Britons are said to have some sort of access to e-mail. And what you Luddites easily forget is that the golden age of letter writing was when you could send a letter to your lover in the morning and have a reply in the afternoon rather than waiting three days for a muddy, torn envelope pushed through your door.

It's true that, by using e-mail, we are unlikely to have vast collections of letters like those of the poet Pope (who incidentally asked for all his letters back before they were published so

that he could "improve" them). But then, in the world of modern communications, it's only those with their eye on posterity who are likely to send them anyway. Most people just wouldn't bother at all.

Actually there's something horrible about the thought of old Alexander finessing his letter ("Hmnnn maybe another rhyming couplet here before the page turn? Anyone know a rhyme for verisimilitude?"). The joy – and terror – of e-mails is that they are so impulsive, so of the minute with no capital letters and no proper grammar, that they reflect all too cruelly what people are thinking (from bill@whitehouse.com – monica

sorry, it's over, gotta go and invade somewhere and buy flowers for hillary before she beats me up, bill ps i need my dress back).

This summer, historians were appalled to learn that Princess Margaret had destroyed hundreds of the Queen Mother's letters in a tidy-up at the palace. But I think that our formidable matriarch is cleverer than that. I'm sure she switched from snailmail years ago to be rude about her daughters-in-law, the Blair government and the butler without her busybody daughter poking her nose in. If only her royal ancestor had had the same advantage. Then it could have all been so different, eh Bill?

Address:	City/State:	Code:
Phone:	Telex:	Fax:
E-mail:	Personal interests:	Personal hobbies:
Comments: (After a few moments thinking will have to be justified and I'll have to make a decision. If there are any problems with this, please contact me.)		
Signature: _____		
Personal Category: _____		

JAN 16 1998

Towards a perfect monotony

Willie Doherty's political artwork has avoided both propaganda and emotional indulgence for an intense view of the deadlock in Northern Ireland. By Tom Lubbock

I used to know someone, a member of the Socialist Worker Party, whose big put-down for those she called "post-modernists" was to say that, for them, the revolution was something that happened in art galleries. She had a point. You do find people - usually writing in art magazines - who seem to think that way. They fervently analyse, pro or contra, the political import of some artwork, without any practical reference to political life outside the gallery, without even noticing the omission. But then, what's the right way to think of the relation between what happens in the gallery and in the public world beyond?

Political art is liable to lose out every way. If it makes direct statements, it's called propaganda, and told that it's wasting its energy, or acting in bad faith, because the art audience is tiny and probably immune too. If it offers more oblique meditations, it's accused of indulgence, evasion and obscurity; what's wanted are clear declarations and commitments. And whatever it does, it's likely also to be judged by the most touchy standards, as if it really were going to make all the difference in the world. Political art often finds itself in a role which reverses that proverbially enjoyed by the press: minimum power, maximum responsibility.

And sometimes it knows this. At the Tate Gallery in Liverpool, Willie Doherty has a kind of retrospective, just opened and titled "Somewhere Else". Doherty is his subject, since the mid-1980s, has been the politics of Northern Ireland. His medium is photos with words, and videos with soundtracks. It's an art acutely - almost oppressively - conscious of its limitations and responsibilities. It never looks very hopeful either.

Here's an example, a video piece called *At the End of the Day*. In a small dark room, projected onto one wall, you see: view from

A lot of things are noticeable by their absence.

a car driving along a hilly country road at dusk - out of the gloom, in a dip, suddenly, a border road-block - unmanned, just a blank metal barrier across the road - car stops, waits, some dark birds cross the sky - sequence begins again, repeated over and over. And each time the short sequence restarts, a monotonous voice on the soundtrack says "the only way is forward" or "we must forget the past and look to the future" or "we're entering a new phase" or some such phrase from the lexicon of political breakthrough ("at the end of the day...")

The idea there, and the irony, is I suppose pretty direct breakthrough hits road-block again and again, but it has a characteristic twist of uncertainty too. Talk of "a new phase" might come from the Northern Ireland Office. It might equally refer to the armed struggle. Something the work often stresses is how the language duplicates - not only the language of either side, but also the language of peace and war.

Take another, largely audio, piece. They're All the Same. Here you see a still slide projection of a young man's face, accompanied by an array very monotonous voice-over, which delivers three sorts of statements alternately: 1. I am a crazy killer; for example "I am ruthless and cruel"; 2. I am a noble struggler ("I am proud and dedicated"); 3. lyrical description of landscape ("The soft Atlantic rain which seems to cover the whole country adds depth and subtlety to its colour"). Of course, the last element is pretty important, because otherwise the piece would just say that one person's terrorist is another's freedom fighter. The nature sentiment complicates things. It could well be shared by both sides. It could be the common ground that both are fighting for and over. Or it could come from a tourist board, trying to put the Troubles out of the visitor's mind.

A lot of things are noticeable by their absence.



'Bullet Holes': violent action is never represented in Doherty's work, only its results, in high finish

James Austin

sence. No violent action is represented, only its results, in high finish: close-up, colour photos of a car's bullet-holed bodywork, or blown-out french windows, or a burnt out van left by the roadside. These things are taken out of context, specifically, taken out of the context of dramatic reportage, presented absolutely flat. Indeed there's very little human incident at all in Doherty's work - no images of paramilitaries, or security forces, or parades, raids, stand-offs, funerals, or any of the well known "signs" (with their well known emotional incitements). You get a lot of unpeopled views of town and country, where the human presence is only in the viewpoint implied - a photo titled *At the Border - Walking towards a Military Checkpoint* a leafy lane in perfect perspective with nothing else visible!

and *Critical Distance* (a townscape at night, as seen from a surveillance camera). And if you wonder where Doherty stands himself, it seems to be a matter of negatives. He observes a studied neutrality as between loyalist and nationalist causes. He is deeply sceptical of all the standard languages: mediatic, political, security or terrorist. He insists on everybody's blank incomprehension of everybody else. He's scrupulously down-beat. As for the emotional charge of the work, I'd almost call it an intense boredom. Obviously that sounds rude, but I take this effect to be deliberate, and to involve various motives: careful avoidance of anything flashy or sensational in the presentation; stern discouraging of all stock responses; creating a sense of depressed inurement, of the wearing everyday anxiety of checkpoints, barriers, surveillance, outrages; and a sense of the rigid entrenchment of all positions. And it is a real intensity.

Whether Doherty's work has, in addition, a margin of quite gratuitous boringness, I'm not sure. But a more important issue is its apparently inflexible pessimism. And an obvious point, of course, is: so what about now? The peace process and the Good Friday agreement? How does Doherty deal with that? Well there's only one piece from 1998, a complex video installation, *Somewhere Else*, which would need about 500 words to describe - but suffice to say that no breakthrough seems to be registered here either. Nor would you really expect that from an art that's been till then so spectacularly unmoved by hopes of any sort.

Least of all the hope that it might make much difference to anything. Indeed, one can think that Doherty's work holds its place within the art gallery just too securely. For isn't its take on its subject exactly the artistic position? Our art loves deadlocks, hates breakthroughs. (What a let down it, on the fiftieth repeat the road-block was gone and the car kept going...) At any rate, making the Troubles so strongly into art, Doherty makes you aware how very remote the contemporary artistic virtues - a laconic irony, contradictions held in resonant stasis, brooding menace - are from those of the negotiating table.

Willie Doherty - *Somewhere Else*: Tate Gallery Liverpool, Albert Dock, Liverpool; until 1 October; admission £3, concs £1.50

A fine brush with violence

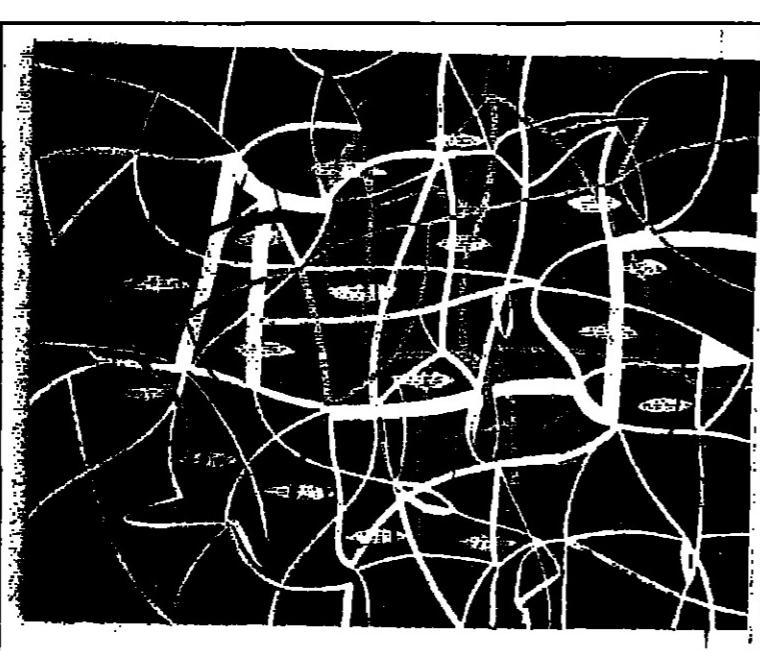
Photographic realism, linear abstraction - Maurice Cockrill has painted in many styles but all his work captures the implicit turmoil of nature. By David Cohen

MAURICE COCKRILL'S subject is the turbulence of nature and the violence brought on by change, whether growth or destruction is winning through. The environment and the elements seethe with both vitality and danger, and as if to reflect this dichotomy, Cockrill's painterly treatment oscillates between elegance and awkwardness.

This restlessness permeates not just individual images but the shape of Cockrill's painting output. Works from the last 10 years are the subject of a fulsome and energetic retrospective at the Royal West of England Academy in Bristol. Even within this timespan, which represents less than half of his career, there is an extraordinary diversity of temper and style. Richly troubled landscapes in organic hues at one end of the show jar with hermetically abstract linear configurations in unearthly colours at the other. The same relentless force of nature which spawns life and terminates it seems to keep Cockrill on the move, preventing him from settling down comfortably into his own genre or style.

While this makes for an exciting body of work, it hasn't helped Cockrill's reputation. Despite wonderful handling of materials, an unquestionable painterly authority, the admiration of fellow artists (Paula Rego and John Hoyland among them) and the confidence of dealers and collectors, the lack of a trademark icon has deprived him of success. Part of the problem is that he only arrived on the London scene in the early 1980s, starting his career afresh. Twenty years before that were spent in Liverpool, where he was well-known as a realist, installing huge billboard-like portraits of casual passers-by in Lime Street Station (a project funded by the Arts Council) and painting urban landscapes with deadpan photographic precision.

Dissatisfaction with that led to a decisive break. First there were violently choppy neo-Expressionist figure paintings inspired by visits to the National Gallery, often dealing with mythological subjects about the battle between the sexes (they were exhibited in the Düsseldorf Kunstmuseum in 1985). These gave way to landscapes charged with a similar sense of disturbance and edgeiness. A series titled *Song of the Earth* justified the allusion to Mahler because, like his music, a gorgeous lyricism



Maurice Cockrill - 'Red Rain' (1998)

learned to live with strange abrasions and unsettling dissonances.

Cockrill is probably best known for such landscapes. At the time he was represented by the Bernard Jacobson Gallery which was at the commercial forefront of the 1980s revival of interest in the British romantic tradition, trading in such figures as Bomberg, Lanyon and Hitchens.

Cockrill's work related to these forebears, along with Nash and Sutherland, and fitted the ethos of the critic Peter Fuller who argued, in Ruskinian terms, for modern landscape painting embodying spiritual yearnings. Cockrill's landscapes take an unsentimental view of nature; his landscape, like that of his own childhood in North Wales, is post-industrial, scarred and brooding. His painting is both tempestuous and in its rough handling and infused with hope in its richness and affirmative colour. For those after "redemption through form" (Fuller's catchphrase), Cockrill looked positively messianic.

This period was a highlight for Cockrill. His works sold well, and Margaret Drabble wrote a monograph about him. And yet, perhaps precisely because of

his association with Romanticism, he must have been perceived in some quarters as suspect - conservative or not anti-Modernist. The Tate has still to buy its first Cockrill and the Arts Council hasn't supported him since he left Liverpool. His former city, however, has not forgotten him.

In 1995, he was the subject of a full-scale retrospective at the Walker, which owns his tremendously ambitious and involving series of elliptical canvases from 1990, the *Seasons*. Within these suggestively egg-shaped canvases, a bustle of forms - pods, seeds, flaming hearts, loops, leaves, crystalline cellular structures - seem on the brink of becoming harbingers of symbolic meaning but jealously guard their potency.

These four pieces dominate the first gallery of the West of England Academy as once again the regions take up the cudgels on Cockrill's behalf. Bristol's RWA, an architectural marvel with its wonderful 19th century galleries, has a lively and courageous exhibition policy which deserves national recognition.

An artist who struck such a rich vein in his *Seasons* would have been justified in sticking with it, exploring subtle vari-

INDEPENDENT COLLECTOR

JOHN WINDSOR'S GUIDE TO BUYING AFFORDABLE CONTEMPORARY ART

PURE WHITE and delicately modelled, this porcelain cast of an infant's dress by Tiziana Bendall-Brunello seems to contain the breath of life. It speaks of the fragility of childhood and the fleetness of time.

The Italian-born artist has already earned a reputation for her glass bowls in which gold, silver and copper are embedded, and for her glass architectural panels. But it is her casts of socks, shoes - and now little dresses - that she feels impelled to make between commissions, that have caught the eye of exhibition curators.

Janice Blackburn, the independent curator, has put her porcelain dress in her current "Spirit of the Age" exhibition at the Bowes Museum, Barnard Castle, County Durham, and her pair of lead-crystal stiletto-heeled shoes were in this summer's "Absent Cobblers" exhibition at the Barbican. Next month, the Hayward Gallery will show "Fragments", in its series *Wheat*, which gradually lost its symbolic literalness in a series called *Generation*. In these, an amorphous shape, within which nestle organic growths and landscape vistas, floats against a bright, almost garish monochrome ground.

It was here that a new kind of mark introduced itself. Detached from the rest of the composition, lassos or anchor-like forms provide some kind of commentary on the rest of the scene. As marks they are elegant, lyrical and spontaneous. This pulled up short viewers who thought they were used to the sumptuous Expressivism of his 1980s landscapes. In his latest series, *Elements*, dense webs of different coloured line evoke wateriness or fire. Seen on their own they look at first like 1950s salon abstraction, or some ironic, retro comment about such material, but in relation to Cockrill's private language and development they are a challenging dialectical statement. It's tantalising to imagine what's next.

Maurice Cockrill is at the Royal West of England Academy, Bristol, to 19 September. The exhibition will be shown in reduced form at Purdy Hicks Gallery, London, from 25 September to 17 October.



Bendall-Brunello's porcelain dress James Austin

attached, has braced its tiny shoulders and puffed out its chest.

One of her inspirations is the Sixties Italian *arte povera* artist Giuseppe Penone, especially his ceramic life-size human figure, "Breath", cast in negative so that the empty cavity seems to materialise.

Reaction to the little porcelain dress is mixed. One viewer, overheard by Bendall-Brunello, called it "The epitome of art". Another said: "Oh, god, it's difficult to look at, it's so ghostly". To me, it looks like one of those irresistibly nostalgic 18th century children's garments that turn up in trunks in the attics of the gentry - the last remnant of a life, perhaps snuffed out before its time, now resurrected.

So it's a pity that about four out of five crumble or distort into macabre shapes during firing at 1280C. She discards them. The survivors - only four so far - emerge with the fabric incinerated without trace and having acquired a subtle movement of their own.

"It's not like carving the drapery of a stone statue," she says. "You have to stand back and let the firing process take its own course". The latest, to which she has become most

sandwiched between two sheets of glass and fired. The dress has disappeared, but its impression in the glass remains, down to the last fibre. She has applied a screen-print of the dress, as it was, to one side of the glass. "I like using glass," she says. "It's like freezing, preserving something. The glass allows you in, but at the same time keeps you at a distance."

Each of the three tile-like shapes of her "Fragments" contains a porcelain cast of a dress embedded in greenish glass. "I wanted to deconstruct something familiar", she says, "and then put it back together in a different way. It was certainly more involving than previous pieces."

"My work appears to be self-generating. I feel as if I'm following leads, picking up threads."

Prices: £450 - £2,200. Examples of her work will be in Sotheby's annual selling exhibition of contemporary decorative art in February.

Tiziana Bendall-Brunello (01223-411374)

I'll be in Bollywood before ye

It may seem extravagant to bring an Indian film crew all the way to Paisley to film a six-minute sequence, but Bombay's film industry can easily afford it. And to the audience, Scotland is the ultimate exotic foreign location. By Richard Mowe

AGAINST A backdrop of heather, lochs, mountains and scudding clouds, a film crew watch an Indian couple apparently rehearsing a traditional dance. Suddenly the sound of sitar music blasts from a couple of strategically placed speakers, causing any curious wildlife to dive for cover. As cameras whirr, the two actors - he in skin-tight jeans and leather jacket, she in miniskirt and modestly revealing blouse - embark on their paces with studied intensity and grand gestures.

Cut! The director, Karan Johar, rushes forward to declare himself well pleased with his protagonists' efforts. The crew, all warmly wrapped against the rigours of a Scottish summer, pack up, stow gear into assorted buses and vans then head off into a gathering dusk and their base in Glasgow, some four hours' drive away. The next day they can look forward to another dawn rise, and another scenic location along hazardous single-track roads from Loch Lomond to Glencoe.

"Bollywood", the term coined for India's film industry centered on Bombay, has come to Scotland to film part of a £1.5m blockbuster.

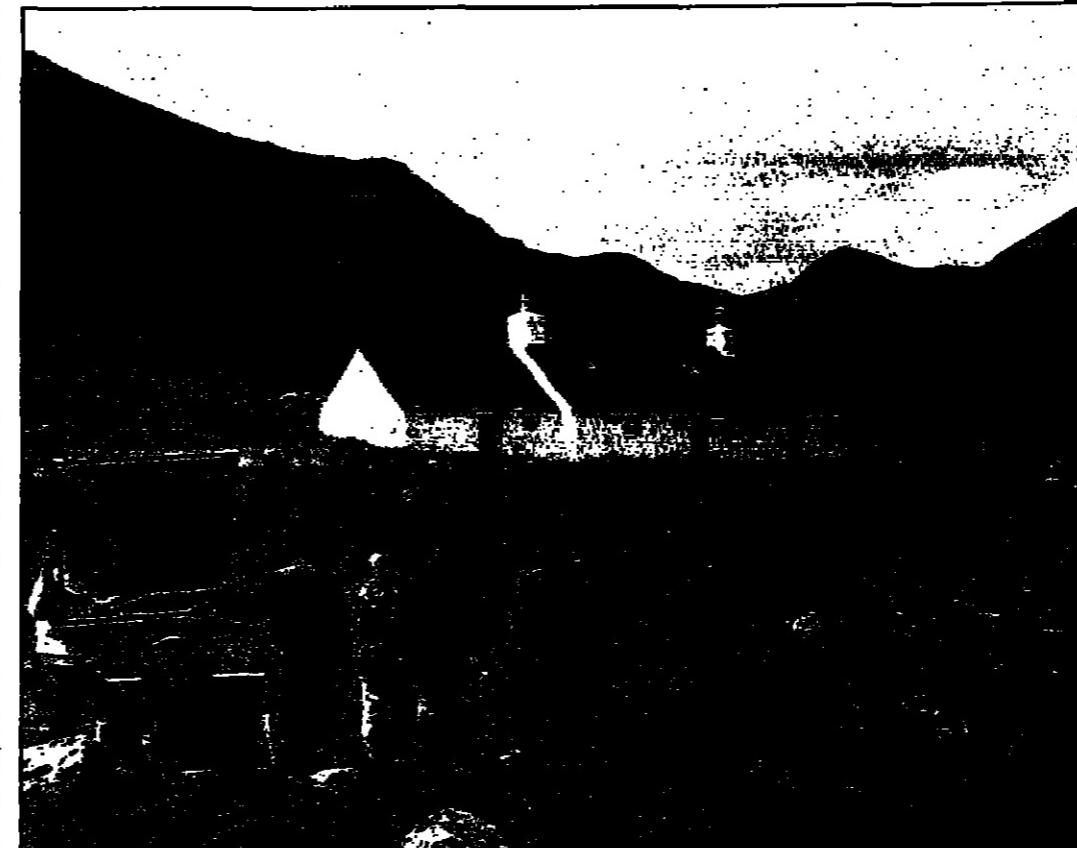
The two actors, Shah Rukh Khan and his leading lady Kajol, possess a level of stardom to eclipse the likes of Tom Cruise and Winona Ryder. While most of the crew of 35 have been accommodated, with their own chef, in a university hall of residence, Khan and Kajol bask in the luxury of a hotel.

In the film, *Kuch Kuch Hota Hai*, (Something Happened in My Heart) they play star-crossed lovers who dream of coming to Scotland. The six-minute musical sequence takes place in their imaginations.

Why Scotland? "Because to Indian eyes it's an exotic place - and we chose places for their scenic beauty and sense of history," says Yosh Kohar, the film's producer (and Karan Johar's father). "This is a Romeo and Juliet story. She comes from an old-fashioned background; he follows her home, and eventually wins her family's heart."



In a remote Scottish valley, Karan Johar's film crew settle down to film a dream sequence with Shah Rukh Khan and Kajol (left) dancing in the heather.



In a remote Scottish valley, Karan Johar's film crew settle down to film a dream sequence with Shah Rukh Khan and Kajol (left) dancing in the heather.

Kohar's Bombay colleagues thought him "crazy" to go all the way to Scotland with a huge crew for this short sequence. "But this part has to be more beautiful than anything else in the film, and you cannot manufacture that in a studio," he says.

The producer helps to fund his film-making activities through an export business. "We make more films than almost any other country in the world, including the States - around 700 a year. And the quality is improving. The Americans would think nothing of coming to Scotland for such a short shoot, so why shouldn't we?"

He was lucky to get Khan. At home, the star would be mobbed everywhere. He managed to survive

incognito in Scotland until the last day when the news broke among the Asian community. The local paper headline was: "Exclusive - Indian movie megastar in Paisley". As a result, a handful of girls waited patiently at the hotel to catch a glimpse of their idol. "We can't believe he's here in Scotland. We've seen every film he's ever made," said one. "We know everything there is to know about him; unfortunately he's married, and has a child, but we still like him. He can be the hero or the bad guy, and he's also very funny. When he's in a serious role he makes me greet [cry]."

If Khan is a *Cruise* clone who has made 26 films in the last four years,

then Kohar must be a close copy of Steven Spielberg. He worked as a production executive with several of the big studios in Bombay before opting to set up independently. "What I make from my business activities, I plough into my films. It is a passion. Film-making all over the world is a gamble, just like going to the race-course and seeing who the trainer is, and the rider, and assessing the pedigree and the form. My son always wanted to work in the cinema. He was an assistant on a film, *People with Heart Will Take the Bride Away*, written by a friend, which was a huge hit. Khan was also starring in it, and he suggested my son should direct this film."

Kohar detects a return to a taste for romance among Indian audiences; every day 15 million go to the cinema, paying 40 rupees (or 75p). "For the last four or five years we followed the pattern for big budget action movies from the West. Now love is back. Our audiences are poor and we have to provide what they want. Rich Indians have tennis, golf and racing, but the ordinary person only has cinema. When they buy a ticket, they want to spend three hours at least in front of the screen. I know that if I made a film of 90 minutes it would be a flop."

"They want songs, comedy, tragedy and romance; they would never accept boy meets girl and a

kiss right away. You have to take time to establish a relationship."

"Yes, now lovers can kiss on screen, providing it is not vulgar. But the censor allows only a couple of kisses per film."

Most of the films are so culturally specific that they baffle foreign audiences. One prevalent plot is to remake Hollywood hits - there have been three versions of *Mrs Doubtfire* and as many of *Sleeping with the Enemy* and *Indecent Proposal*. Male stars are usually strong of jaw and clear of eye, females are pallid and compliant.

Working practices are relaxed. Kevin Cowie, Scottish Screen's location manager, observed the shoot

from close quarters. "There's a very ad hoc attitude to shooting. Normally you would have everything prepared down to the last detail. With them, you'd be driving along the shores of a loch, and they would say: 'That looks nice, let's stop here.' At one point they blocked a single-track road, and we had to come back to move everything for a forestry lorry." Cowie was not amused. "They thought they could shoot anywhere without permission, including the ruins of St Andrew's Cathedral where they let off explosives. We didn't even know they were coming until after the event."

"They think nothing of working a 12- or even 14-hour day. At Fort William one day their coach broke down, and they hired taxis to take them to the location." Local businesses had no complaints: the Indians parted with £40,000 during their stay, hiring a Scottish location manager, lighting and special effects crew who, bizarrely, had to manufacture a rainstorm to order.

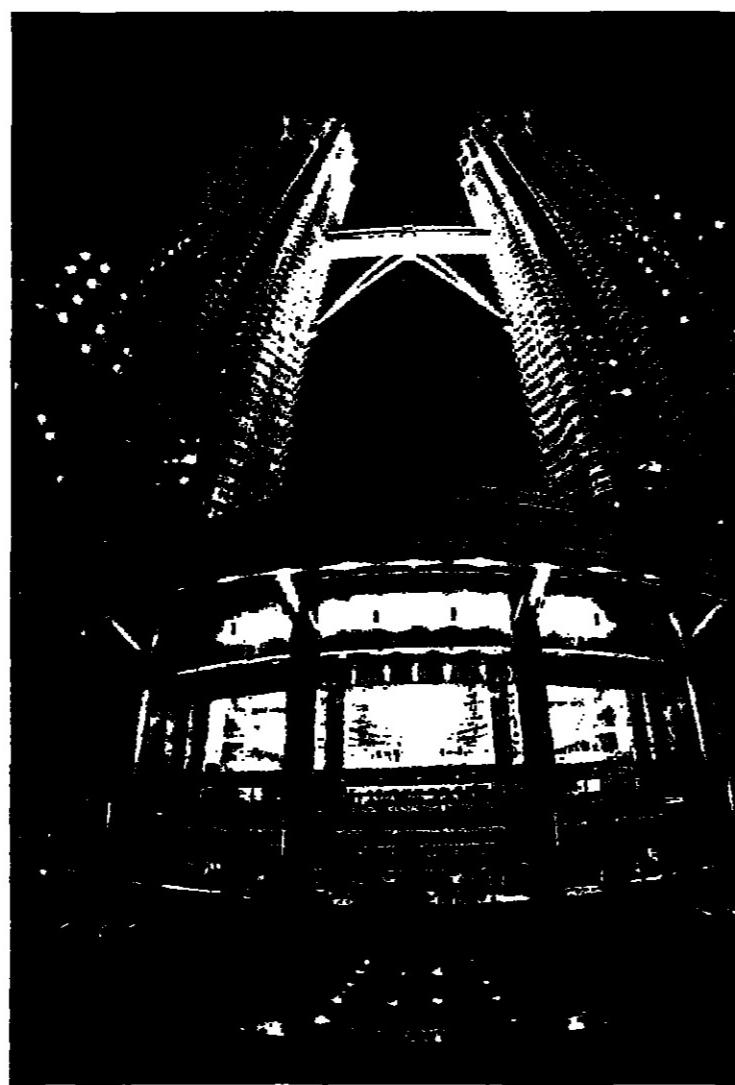
Scotland has begun to acquire a reputation in Bollywood. Last year the director Dev Anand came to the Highlands to make *Desire*, helped by a Dundee restaurateur, Tony Hussain, who says: "Usually Indian film-makers think of Switzerland but Scotland has more to offer. I think of myself as a promoter: I was born here, but I want to give something back."

Bollywood's escape to Scotland will hit screens on 14 October, which has been deemed the equivalent of America's Independence Day prime slot for launching a movie. In addition to the 600 prints at home, almost 100 copies will be shown at the same time throughout the world in cities with sizeable Asian populations including London, Glasgow, Edinburgh, Birmingham, Bristol and Leicester.

On that day Johar can expect queues round the block as fans in Delhi and Bombay jostle for admittance to the first show. That's a Bollywood tradition the moguls of LA would willingly trade.

A dream between the twin towers

Decadent Western music is coming to Muslim Malaysia. But who really benefits? By Michael Church



The new symphony hall at the foot of the Twin Towers. **IMG**

HOSTING THE Commonwealth Games was always going to be a moment of truth for Kuala Lumpur, and the timing now is cruel. A collapsing currency has littered the Malaysian capital with abandoned projects - shuttered shops, half-built ghost-towns, concrete pillars supporting an invisible monorail - but amazingly, the key things are bang on target. The stadium is up-and-running, and something remarkable has appeared at the base of the Petronas Twin Towers - the world's tallest building - like a silver football trapped between the feet of a giant.

A symphony hall is a must for any Far Eastern country wishing to Westernise itself, but this one - with its brand-new orchestra - reflects an extraordinary melding of cultures, where British musicians have been the catalyst. For Muslim Malaysia has traditionally viewed Western music as decadent: the classical torch has been carried by the ethnic-Chinese business class, who routinely put their offspring through British piano grades. And in Malaysia the cultured Chinese are represented by poorer Malays as the Jews were in turn-of-the-century Vienna. This inferiority-complex is what Prime Minister Mahathir terms "the Malay dilemma", and resolving that dilemma through job-quotas has long been the policy of the government.

But orchestras are not assembly-lines, and violinists aren't created overnight. When the state-owned Petronas oil company decreed a resident orchestra for their new concert hall, they asked the London branch of IMG Artists to set it up. The resulting band is preponderantly American, British, and Hungarian, with just four Malaysians who are all - surprise, surprise! - ethnic Chinese, including a young harpist found studying in Manchester. Is this yet another snub for the Malays?

No, because Petronas chairman Tan Sri Azizan is playing a long and clever game. On hearing that a Malaysian woman conductor called Chean Si Ooi was working in Germany, he sent IMG to check her out. It emerged that she had long been trying to found a Malaysian symphony orchestra and she is now resident conductor in Kuala Lumpur. Meanwhile, Tan Sri appointed as his music director the Dutch conductor, Kees Bakels, who is determined, like Chean Si, to nurture any local composing talent that he comes across. "Even if the quality isn't great, I'd rather do something Malaysian than import high-grade, ready-made stuff from China or Japan."

As general manager - the lynchpin of any orchestra - Tan Sri chose John

Duffy, a former LSO boss whose gilt-edged reputation drew a flood of applications from players in Britain and America. Indeed, I have never encountered a more contented bunch than the players I meet here, and not just because pay and conditions are so good. "Creating this orchestra has been a dream," says Duffy. "Starting off with no prior ill-feeling between players and management, we've been able to design a contract which is right for the local situation." The unique thing about this contract is that it stipulates that every player should also teach, which brings us to Tan Sri's next goal: a full-scale conservatoire in Kuala Lumpur, from which his orchestra will eventually be staffed.

As it happens, there already is a conservatoire of sorts, in a scatter of bungalows 10 miles outside town. Just two years old, this is part of the

not the prime purpose of this institution. "Until now," says Mimmi Ang, "music in Malaysia has been the province of the rich. Hopefully this department, which is for poor students like Fung Chiat, will change things a little."

Another of Ang's students is a father-of-three called Mizan, who bikes 100 miles each day for the privilege of learning the tuba. And as a Muslim he is prepared to answer a question which his fellow-students are too embarrassed even to discuss. Why is it that local Islamists condemn Western music? "It's a question of instruments," he says. "Drums, for example, don't reflect us from thinking about life after death. Even the Prophet approved of music with rhythm, which spurred people to get

refuse to come. Kees Bakels speaks with contempt of the virtuous - no names, but we can guess - who work play in Malaysia, but gladly do in Muslim Turkey. Never mind, the indefatigable Yehudi Menuhin has booked to play in KL next year. Malaysians may observe prayers five times every Friday - the Petronas towers are equipped with mini-mosques for office-workers - but this is still one of the most moderate Muslim countries in the world.

Sean Connery may be about to shoot a film in the Petronas Twin Towers, but the young Malaysian intelligentsia have their own reasons for ambivalence towards their new musical toy, particularly in a time of ferocious recession. "It's like Scarlett O'Hara buying a new dress while civil war is raging," says lawyer Sheena Gurbahkhan, who goes on to warn the expert players to fine-tooth their contracts. "We in Malaysia are good at wooing foreigners to work for us, and then exploiting them once they're here." Eddie Koko, poet and music promoter, sees the orchestra as a calculated political statement. "Over the last 10 years our government has tried to remake Malaysia as a Western capitalist society, and to deny its multi-racial, multi-religious nature. The orchestra is another evasion of these truths. While millions are poured into an imported musical culture, our own music is dying." Both these commentators want to see the Malaysian Philharmonic incorporate local instruments, and local musical forms. Since they have potential allies in Bakels and Chean Si, this reasonable wish may come true.

Back at the Malaysian Philharmonic, people feel no less hedged about by religion. Tan Sri tells me of the problem he has had with "a small group who would like to use religious differences for political ends". Controversy focused on the concert hall's organ - seen by some as a Christian instrument. He has had it covered in Malaysian designs, and now it looks properly oriental. Meanwhile, any work with a text must be submitted for government approval before it's performed: grand opera, with its penchant for illicit liaisons, wouldn't stand a chance.

More seriously, anything on which a Zionist construction might be put is out of the question. *Elgar* would be banned on textual grounds, not because its composer Mendelssohn was a Jew. But in Malaysia, which has no diplomatic relations with Israel, Jewishness in performers is another hazard. Chean Si recalls the day a youth orchestra she was bringing was nearly stopped at the border because one girl was Israeli: they only got through thanks to intercession by Malaysia's First Lady, who happened to be one of their patrons. And then there are the Jewish performers who

on with their lives. But strings are so beautiful that they make us forget about our higher purpose. That makes them morally dangerous."

'Stringed instruments are morally dangerous - so beautiful they make us forget our higher purpose'

Back to barracks

THEATRE

BILOKI BLUES
NATIONAL YOUTH THEATRE
LONDON

ONE OF the biggest problems for the National Youth Theatre is finding material for its young casts, aged 16 to 21. There are numerous plays packed with meaty roles, but while the experience of working on characters way beyond your playing age is essential, putting actors too young for their roles on stage in front of a paying audience is a different matter.

Endless young writers have been inspired to "write about what you know about", churning out versions of what Joyce called *Portrait of the Artist as a Young Man*. However, few playwrights have taken the lead quite as literally as Neil Simon. After streams of smart, urban comedies he turned the clock back 40 years to write three autobiographical plays about his early years: *Brighton Beach Memoirs*, *Biloki Blues* and *Broadway Bound*. With a cast almost entirely made up of young men undergoing basic military training, *Biloki Blues* is thus an entirely apt choice. Simon did his training in Denver, Colorado in 1946 but in *Biloki Blues* he switched location to Mississippi. Not only out of his beloved Manhattan, we are also in new dramatic territory as, ironically, he almost abandons the machine-guns rattle of his two-finger formula: the automatic ricochet of set-up and punch line. But we're still in his trademark chocolate box, where even the hardest things have a sweet, soft centre. His heart-on-sleeve alter ego, Eugene, is a nice Jewish boy who dreams of

becoming a writer. He's a gefilte fish out of water. Well-scrubbed David Nicolle has a naive, engaging warmth as he tells the story of 10 back-breaking Army weeks. He may not quite come across as *echt* Jewish (which may be a decision by the director, Ed Wilson) but the accent is vintage Woody Allen and he even has a gleaming, perfect-teeth, all-American smile. Thrown into Simon's carefully assembled bunch of types - the redneck (Sam Spruell), the "Polack" (Josh Cole) etc - Eugene tells us of their often comic exploits as they struggle to come to terms with enforced cohabitation, war, and strict obedience. Jack Pierce cuts an enormously impressive figure as the swaggering disciplinarian sergeant, his powerful voice commanding attention from the audience, let alone his raw recruits. Everyone seizes their opportunities, but the real stand-out is Matt Hickey as the nerdy Epstein. He may bear an uncanny resemblance to Radar from *M*A*S*H* but he has a relaxed presence and a quiet confidence which act as a still centre at the emotional high points. Let out on a pass, Eugene falls in love with Daisy - a nicely innocent and gently understated Claire Parsons - but it's really an all-boys show. The women get their turn in Brian Friel's *Dancing at Lughnasa* and the season climaxes with a grand-scale *Oedipus Rex* at the Bloomsbury Theatre. At the very least, casting directors scouting for fresh talent should look no further.

DAVID BENEDICT

What a fine mess they got us in

Stan and Ollie have become victims of their own slapstick cliches. Now, 70 years after their first film, a new generation of funny men is acknowledging the original genius of Laurel and Hardy. By James Rampton

ONE CRITIC famously summed up the oeuvre of Laurel and Hardy with the succinct phrase: "They hit each other and fall over a lot." It is true that some people – particularly those from younger generations not steeped in slapstick – think, "oh no, here come Laurel and Hardy, I'd better duck to avoid the low-flying custard-pies". But even a cursory glance at their work reveals how unfair that assessment is.

The modern-day comedian Stewart Lee, himself part of a double act with Richard Herring, believes that the bowler-hatted duo should not be found guilty by association with their pre-War comedy peers. "When you were a kid and they used to put on old films in the morning, even at the age of five you realised that Charlie Chaplin didn't translate to the modern world and that Abbott and Costello, even when they were meeting Frankenstein, were the 'black and white' equivalent of Little and Large. Laurel and Hardy have been unfairly bracketed with all that."

Well, you can judge the comic double act for yourselves this week. To mark the 70th anniversary of *Should I Marry Men Go Home?* (1928), the first official Laurel and Hardy film, a selection of their best work is being released in cinemas and on video.

But just what made Stan and Ollie different from the cruder, knockabout humour of many of their contemporaries? For Al Murray, three-time Perrier nominee and another contemporary comic admirer, it is the pair's universality that distinguishes them. "Although they may appear slow compared with the high-speed, slam-dunk comedy we're used to now, they have it all. Their comedy operates on the principle that everyone may not have been to America or even worn a bowler hat, but everyone has met an idiot so you can identify with them pretty easily."

It is this Everyman quality that still appeals to Lois Laurel, Stan's 72-year-old daughter. "They're everyday people in everyday situations. We can laugh at the jams they get into – 'another fine mess' – because they could happen to anybody." Glenn Mitchell, who, as author of *The Laurel and Hardy Encyclopedia*, knows more about their work than is strictly necessary, recalls that "Jack Benny once said Laurel and Hardy won't date because they don't rely on jokes per se, but on recognisable human situations that never alter".

Stewart Lee concurs: "Laurel and Hardy are completely timeless. It doesn't matter that their films are old. They're about power struggles in relationships, and everyone can relate to that because everyone has power struggles in relationships. Laurel and Hardy will never not be funny because people



Their comedy operates on the principle that everyone has met an idiot so you can identify with them pretty easily'

will always be bickering with their partners or friends or colleagues."

At the same time, Laurel and Hardy have a deep and touching fondness for each other which never descends into the rank sentimentality of which Chaplin is so often accused. "However frustrated they may become, they know they need each other," says Mitchell. "In *Below Zero* (1930), they're being roughed up in this café and Ollie is thrown out on the street. When he

realises Stan's not there, he is visibly distressed. He calls out for him and rushes back to bang on the door of the café. It turns out that Stan is in the rain barrel. But for a brief moment we see a very concerned Ollie prepared to risk life and limb to save his friend.

"It's very easy to dismiss them as knockabout comedians, but there's more to them than that. They have such grace and they're such gentlemen – it's not basic

clowning where fingers are poked in eyes. Despite occasional squabbles, they have compassion for each other and for other people, unless provoked beyond endurance. They have humanity to spare."

Lee also praises their spirit: "They're like Morecambe and Wise, in that Eric is allowed to pick on Ernie, but when other people try to do it, he defends him. Laurel and Hardy present a united front against outsiders. Also, they suffer in

such a dignified way. When things fall on their heads, they don't really get annoyed. Stan will just rub his head and wait for the next thing to land on his head. I like that thing of just accepting your doom."

These eulogies are all very well, but what relevance do Laurel and Hardy have to Nineties' humour? Aren't they just sepia-tinted curios fit only for intensive study by film and comedy aranors? Not if modern practitioners are to be believed.

Morecambe and Wise, John Cleese, Stephen Fry, Steve Martin, French and Saunders, Reeves and Mortimer and Steve Coogan are among those who acknowledge the pair's influence. Lee Evans is another fan, a maniacally physical comedian who would seem to be a direct descendant: "I think that the comics of today can't help but be influenced by Laurel and Hardy," he says. "You watch their stuff, and you just think 'Wow!' Comedy owes those boys a lot."

According to Mark Little, another stand-up who revels in physicality: "it was work by those guys that inspired me. They didn't mind throwing themselves about a bit, and showing real courage in their comedy. They're like your mates, y'know?"

Further than that, a direct lineage can be traced from Laurel and Hardy down to specific modern-day comedy characters. Tony Robinson, for instance, did not have to look far for inspiration when creating the figure of Baldrick in *Blackadder*. "I absolutely admit that Stan Laurel, for one, was a great influence when I was developing my character. Baldrick wouldn't have been half the man he was if it hadn't been for Laurel and Hardy. Not that he was much of a man anyway..."

Similarly, Ardal O'Hanlon admits a debt to Laurel and Hardy in the genesis of his Father Dougal character in *Father Ted*. "When you look at some of the stuff we did, you can almost see Stan and Ollie in that situation. Like when Dougal and Ted tried to carry that piano up the stairs and it... oh, no, that was Stan and Ollie in *Music Box*! Well, you can see how easy it is to confuse *Father Ted* with *Laurel and Hardy*..."

Ah yes, *The Music Box* (1932) – so many comedians' all-time favourite. I'll let Murray take up the story. "Stan and Ollie have to get this piano up an impossibly long flight of stairs, and much hilarity ensues. The moment that sums them up as a pair of know-nothing geniuses is when they have finally got it up the stairs and the postman says: 'Oh, you know you could have put it on your cart and brought it round the back on the road.' Stan and Ollie look at each other; they look at the piano; they look at the postman, and all this takes an eternity. Then they nod to one another and start to heave the piano back down the stairs to put it on the cart. Perfection." And quite a bit funnier than two men hitting each other and falling over a lot.

Sons of the Desert (1934), *Helpmates* (1932), *The Music Box* (1932) and *Way Out West* (1937) are released in cinemas nationwide on 4 September. Ten of Laurel and Hardy's best films are released on video on 7 September

CD OF THE DAY

BRAHMS: SYMPHONY NO.4/
UNACCOMPANIED CHORUSES OP.74
NO.1, 109 AND 110
MDR CHOIR, LEIPZIG: LEIPZIG GEWANDHAUS
ORCHESTRA/HERBERT BLOMSTEDT
(DECCA 455 510-2. RECORDED 1996)

HERBERT BLOMSTEDT unfolds the drama of Brahms' Fourth Symphony like a sage relating a meaningful narrative. The opening is quiet – as marked – but with an underlying mobility that keeps the larger plan on permanent view. Blomstedt moulds the little surges and swells that shape the violin line while keeping violins and cellos well within earshot. It's a strong performance, too: forceful when the strings soar a few bars later; or when horns and woodwinds pronounce the choppy second subject. How refreshing to encounter a conductor who underlines without resorting to phrasal distortion, so that salient points of musical argument register anew and the frame still holds.

So much happens in this performance, especially around the first movement's eerie development section. Passages that in other performances fly past like a familiar work-day landscape suddenly assume new-found significance. The sensation is rather like switching from an InterCity to the local slow train, though choice of tempo is less crucial than telling observation and texture.

ROBERT COWAN

Soul power lifts the brothers Gibb

POP
THE BEE GEES
ROYAL SHOWGROUND
DUBLIN



Three of a kind Rez

IT'S MIDNIGHT, and in a van caught in a two-mile tailback Gabriel Byrne is eulogising to three fair-haired friends about the Bee Gees, whom we and 35,000 others have just seen. He was not the sole celebrity. Irish PM Bertie Ahern said he'd be along, and Robbie Williams, opening for The Verve at Castle Slane, had plans to "chop down". Barry, Robin and Maurice have come some way from their boyhood in Chorlton, Manchester.

And yet, wherever they go, an aura of naughtiness hangs about them. Is it the name? Is it the bouffant hair and equine incisors so prominent in the early days? Those teeth like wicket gates, haven't changed, and Barry still boasts a mane that bestows upon him the look of a troubled deity. Down the front, of course, the sight of the boys in the flesh caused women to overheat at the rate of one every 10 minutes, but from anywhere else you could only see them properly on video screens, with a backdrop of distant spires and the sombre Wicklow Mountains.

The brothers don't like touring, but with the *Saturday Night Fever* and *Grease* revivals, they'd be fools not to; an un-demanding schedule will take them on to single shows

in London, South America, Africa and Australia. It's an ambitious set, though, 40 songs all told. When they appear they slip instantly into their designated roles. If Barry is the prime mover and romantic, Robin is the beaky stoic and Maurice, whose hair appears to have been relocated to his chin, strides about in shades, fedora and trenchcoat, the Ringo Starr of the band.

With a mammoth set to get through, the Bee Gees don't do repartee and they're out the other side of "Massachusetts" and "I've Gotta Get A Message To You" before we know it. Then Ronan Keating waits on to retrace Boyzone's massacre of "Words". Keating is blond

GLYN BROWN

A testing time for the apostles of Elgar

PROMS

BBC SYMPHONY
ORCHESTRA/BBC
ROYAL ALBERT HALL

mandingly heard. The oratorio, in its grandeur of form, resembles a garland of memorable leitmotifs. Recalled in the flow of exuberant sound, these solid ideas – for the earthly kingdom, and be-y'all – surprise and delight the ear, regardless of the words they accompany.

And anyone who liked the symphony and, out of curiosity, tuned in or turned up to hear *The Apostles*, will not have been disappointed. The performance, with Andrew Davis and the BBC Symphony Orchestra and Symphony Chorus, bore out the contention that this is symphonic Elgar, though whether "more wonderful than Gerontius," as August Jaeger, "Nimrod" of the *Enigma Variations*, claimed, remains an open question. There's certainly no lack of invention; and whereas Gerontius looks to the Wagnerian mysteries of Parsifal for its common stock, in *The Apostles* it is Elgar the colourist, the composer of vividly illustrative music, whose voice is com-

No doubt of this kind as-sailed the sextet of soloists, who in true oratorio fashion projected out strongly to a well-filled Albert Hall. The versatile Thomas Randle was comfortable in his roles as the narrator and John the Apostle. As Peter, bass-baritone Steven Page seemed a little under-powered in ensemble work, yet came into his own in the magnificent denial scene. Anthony Michaels-Moore's Jesus was bold yet subtle, the real man that Elgar wished him to be. Dame Felicity Lott, soprano, robed in shimmering blue, sang the Blessed Mary and the Angel. Mezzo Catherine Wyn-Rogers sang the other Mary, with conviction portraying a woman undone by rosebuds, wines and ointments.

This part, with its choral "fantasy", is generally thought the oratorio's weakest part. Yet here again, in the midst of some fairly dull music, was beauty: a ravishing cadence phrase, for clarinet and harp – perhaps a dropped stitch from the Overture *In the South*. Like so much else in *The Apostles*, it sounds too good to miss. By all means take it or leave it, but first make sure you know what it is you're missing.

NICHOLAS WILLIAMS

How do you get 10% off your shopping at over 150 outlets throughout London?

TimeOut

Shopping Discount Card free with this week's issue.

TimeOut

Valid September 2 - 9 1998 (inclusive)

10% off

at over 150 outlets with your
Time Out Discount Card

Sept 10 1998

HEALTH

No breasts? You can still get breast cancer. And men who put off seeing a doctor about a lump are at high risk. By Roger Dobson

You don't have to be female to get breast cancer

STEPHEN WILSHIRE was returning home from a summer holiday when he felt a lump on his right breast. He was certain it had not been there before, and prodded again to make sure it was real. "It was a very hot Sunday, and I had put my hand under my shirt to scratch my shoulder when I felt this hard lump. I didn't say anything at the time... but the next day I showed my wife and she said I ought to see the doctor."

A few days later, after a biopsy, he was diagnosed with breast cancer and within a fortnight the ex-pilot and retired computer specialist had a mastectomy, followed by radiotherapy and treatment with tamoxifen.

Breast cancer affects one in 1,000 men, compared to one in 11 women. But a new study suggests that men who are high achievers may carry a much greater than average risk of the disease. Researchers found that rates were highest among graduates, men on high incomes, and those with assets of £25,000 plus.

Breast cancer in men and women is essentially the same disease, so researchers believe that studying it in men may be an effective way of investigating environmental causes.

Dr Ann Hsing and her team believe that the investigation of male breast cancer may provide unique clues about environmental and occupational risks that are difficult to detect in women. This is because

they can be masked by confounding factors such as pregnancy, breastfeeding and age at menstruation.

Male breast cancer is much rarer, but one of the problems is men's reluctance to see a doctor. While messages aimed at women have been highly successful in raising awareness of the disease and promoting self-examination, men are less likely to do this.

The worst aspect of male breast cancer is that men are dying of ignorance," says Professor Ian Fentiman, professor of surgical oncology at Guy's Hospital. "We are still finding that the average duration of symptoms is six to nine months.

"That's a long delay, and the reason is that men don't even think about it as a possibility. The real message is that if a man finds a lump on one side it needs to be looked at, particularly if it is not painful."

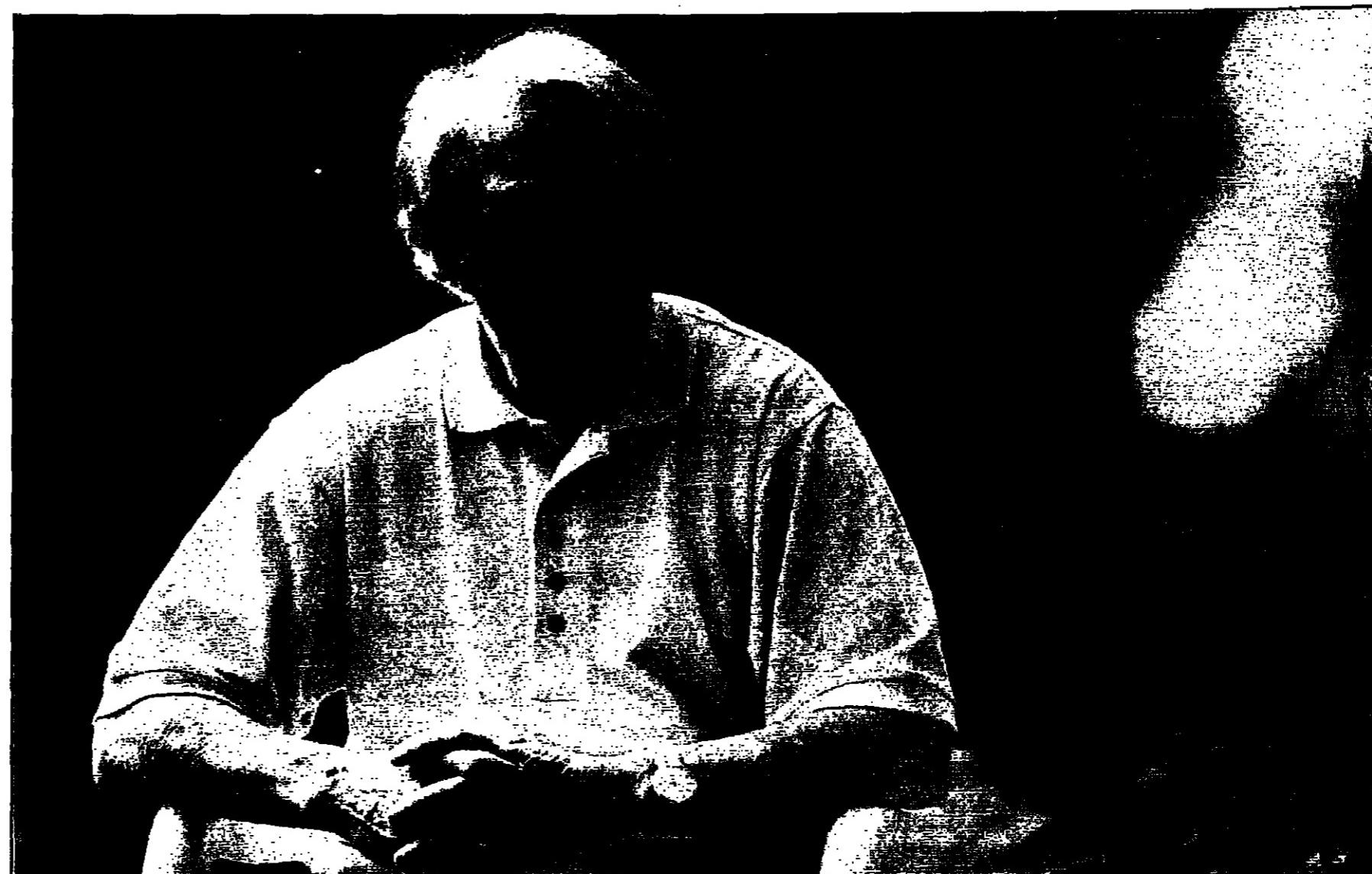
Treatment for male breast cancer is similar to that for women, but usually involves a mastectomy because there is too little tissue for more conservative surgery to be effective. That is usually backed up by removal of the lymph glands, radiotherapy to the chest wall and treatment with tamoxifen, which appears to have good results with hormone-sensitive male breast cancers.

Men get breast cancer seven years later than women, on average, but survival rates are almost exactly the same for both sexes if they report their symptoms at the same stage. However, the overall outcome is worse for men because they tend to get diagnosed much later.

One of the mysteries surrounding male breast cancer is the cause, especially in men who do not carry a gene that predisposes for the disease. Over the years a range of culprits have been looked at, including high-temperature jobs that may affect the testes, and overhead power cables which have been thought to expose to hormones from the female contraceptive pill have been investigated; so, too, have various occupational carcinogens, cosmetics and perfumes.

"I don't think there is any occupation where you can turn around and say 'this job is a serious risk factor for male breast cancer'. The trouble is that you are dealing with small numbers, so there will always be the risk of chance associations."

Research carried out by Dr Anne Hsing of the US National Cancer Institute and colleagues in Italy shows that although risk factors cannot be pinned down with any certainty to



Stephen Wilshire: 'Anyone can remove the lump; the clever thing is to stop the little bugger coming back again'

Martin Rickett

been looked at. We are not sure, for example, whether electromagnetic fields are a risk factor. There was a study which suggested that people who worked with generators and transformers might have a slight increase in risk. The perfume industry has been looked at, and at one time the wearing of braces was considered, but that has been discredited," says Prof Fentiman.

"I don't think there is any occupation where you can turn around and say 'this job is a serious risk factor for male breast cancer'. The trouble is that you are dealing with small numbers, so there will always be the risk of chance associations."

Research carried out by Dr Anne Hsing of the US National Cancer Institute and colleagues in Italy shows that although risk factors cannot be pinned down with any certainty to

specific jobs, they can be linked to social class and wealth.

The research, reported in the *Journal of Occupational and Environmental Health*, examines the cases of 201 men who died from breast cancer and finds clear differences in socioeconomic circumstances. Those with family incomes above £25,000 had a 50 per cent greater risk than those on lower incomes. Men with assets greater than £25,000 were twice as likely to get the disease as those with few or no assets; those who went to college were also as twice as much risk as men who left school early.

Similar observations have been made by Professor Fentiman in his own practice in London: "I have quite a lot of patients with male breast cancer who are high-flying executives," he says.

Just what that means is not clear, but one lifestyle variable between socioeconomic groups is diet.

"As well as reproductive factors, other factors that are related to high socioeconomic status, such as diet and other lifestyle habits, may be important, and deserve further investigation," says Dr Hsing.

For some men, like Stephen Wilshire, the matter is more clear-cut. He carries the gene for breast cancer that caused the death of his mother and one of his daughters. "I have been tested to see whether I am carrying the gene for breast cancer, and I am. It means a one in two chance that any of my children will also carry the gene. If they are male and they are carrying it, there is a 10 per cent chance of their developing cancer, but for females it is between 80 and 85 per cent."

Since his mastectomy, he has worked as a volunteer for Breast Cancer Care, helping other men to come to terms with their diagnosis. "When they get the results, it affects different people in different ways. Some doctors are wonderful at breaking the news, and others are terrible; they back into the furthest corner of the room and say something like, 'I don't think I've got good news for you,'" he says.

The message for men, he concludes, is to get symptoms checked early and to remember that taking out the tumour is not the end of the story: "Anyone can remove the lump; the clever thing is to stop the little bugger coming back again."

Breast Cancer Care's free helpline deals with concern about male breast cancer: 0800 245345

There's a hole in my navel, my nipple, my nose

JOHANNA SPIERS is proud of her piercings. The 21-year-old writer has a ring though her right nostril, a blue jewel, known as a Madonna, above her lip, a half-inch spike just under her bottom lip and a barbell through her tongue.

"I like the way they look," she says. "I don't consider myself to be a particularly pretty or outstanding person, but with a few piercings I can look different and therefore I can make myself outstanding. I imagine I'll have them when I'm 51." It is doubtful whether Zara Phillips, Princess Anne's teenage daughter, who sports a metal stud in her tongue, will keep hers into old age, but both girls are merely conforming with their peers who are happily adorning their tongues, lips, eyebrows and navels. Many practitioners have noticed a rapid increase since last Christmas when "Scary Spice", Mel B, had her tongue pierced.

"When I first started piercing 14 years ago it was older people having nipple or genital piercings to add a bit of spice to their lives," says Philip Barry, a Bristol-based piercer, and chair of the European Professional Piercers Association.

"Now you get a lot of young people, even school children, who

want their navels or tongues pierced."

Is having your tongue, navel or nipple any more dangerous than having your ears pierced? Is there any truth in rumours that you can lose your taste buds, develop tongue paralysis, injure the muscles around the stomach and develop abscesses up your nostrils?

If carried out by trained piercers in hygienic studios, and followed up by meticulous after-care, piercing is remarkably safe. The main danger comes from untrained piercers

working in unhygienic premises, and from poor after-care.

Of the thousands of piercers in Britain, only 450 are registered with the European Professional Piercers Association, which monitors standards of training and hygiene, and a handful belong to the US Association of Professional Piercers. Most piercers are registered with their local councils, but hundreds - the cowboys of the trade - are not, and have little or no training.

Anyone, of any age, can be pierced. According to the

Department of Health, when it comes to body piercing, the courts have ruled that parental rights yield to a child's right to make his or her own decision. Most reputable studios refuse to pierce anyone under 16 without parental consent.

At Cold Steel in Camden, north London, which pierces hundreds of people a week, no one under 18 is pierced without parental consent. "We just don't do it," says Paul King, a master piercer. "People put no thought into their piercings. They just get pierced at their closest studio, rather than shopping around for the best and most reputable one."

Professor Norman Noah, an epidemiologist at the London School of Hygiene and Tropical Medicine, and the Communicable Disease Surveillance Centre, who is Britain's "piercing tsar", has drawn up guidelines to which tattooists, acupuncturists and now piercers should adhere. He approves new ear-piercing guns and says that equipment is now so safe that danger from blood-borne viruses such as HIV, Hepatitis B and C is virtually non-existent.

Leeds City Council last year banned the use of the piercing gun on any part of the body other than the ears, when a number of people developed infections after having their belly buttons pierced with ear-piercing guns.

Inexperienced "cowboy" piercers may also thrust in jewellery too small for a fresh wound, with the result that the skin swells around it, causing infection. After piercing, the tongue swells up to three times its normal size and, if the barbell is too short, it can cause infection. When the swelling has gone down, the barbell can be changed to a shorter one.

Piercing is painless - you just feel a crack when you go



For people who can't keep a civil tongue in their head

Adrian Dennis

through the muscle, according to Kirsty Boyd, manager of the Leeds Piercing Company. "As soon as the anaesthetic wears off, in about an hour, then the pain will come through. The tongue will feel uncomfortable for three to four days and the main swelling will go down in a week or two. It's very difficult to eat and you have to be on liquid diet food."

But once the wound is healed, the ball of the barbell can crack your teeth, as Dr Geoff Craig, an oral pathologist at the Sheffield Dental School explains. "There's a tremendous force applied when you bite. If you are eating and bite down on something, not realising your stud is there as well, you can break a tooth."

Last year, the British Dental journal reported the case of a

25-year-old woman admitted to hospital after her tongue had been pierced. Antibiotics failed to clear up the infection and the barbell was surgically removed. She later collapsed with Ludwig's angina, a rare inflammation of the subcutaneous tissue below the chin, tongue and roof of the mouth.

"There may be no evidence

that having your tongue pierced causes a loss of taste or paralysis, but I would find it difficult to condone the practice," says Dr Craig. "Any swelling can threaten your breathing. The potential for infection is there all the time."

So why do it? Martin Skinner, a social psychologist at the University of Warwick, explains: "It's another way of rebelling and showing you're unique. Each generation has to

CLASSIFIED

Charities

75 is no age to be leaving home.

Rukba helps elderly people preserve their precious independence by providing them with extra income so they can afford to stay in their own homes.

For further information: FREEPOST, 6 Avermore Road, London W14 8BR or telephone: 0345 58 56 80

Rukba
Helping elderly people stay independent
Reg Charity No. 260 000

Legal Notices

NOTICE OF APPLICATION FOR NEW JUSTICES' LICENCE
LICENSING ACT 1964
COURT: The Lew Court, Brighton
HEARING DATE/TIME: Wednesday 30 September 1998 at 10am

PREMISES: 166, 1275 Western Road, Brighton

APPLICANT: Alison Buckley

ADDRESS: 166, 1275 Western Road, Brighton

TRADE OR CALLING: Manager

APPLICANT: James Barker

ADDRESS: 166, 1275 Western Road, Brighton

TRADE OR CALLING: Manager

APPLICANT: Alison Buckley

ADDRESS: 166, 1275 Western Road, Brighton

TRADE OR CALLING: Manager

APPLICANT: Alison Buckley

ADDRESS: 166, 1275 Western Road, Brighton

TRADE OR CALLING: Manager

APPLICANT: Alison Buckley

ADDRESS: 166, 1275 Western Road, Brighton

TRADE OR CALLING: Manager

APPLICANT: Alison Buckley

ADDRESS: 166, 1275 Western Road, Brighton

TRADE OR CALLING: Manager

APPLICANT: Alison Buckley

ADDRESS: 166, 1275 Western Road, Brighton

TRADE OR CALLING: Manager

APPLICANT: Alison Buckley

ADDRESS: 166, 1275 Western Road, Brighton

TRADE OR CALLING: Manager

APPLICANT: Alison Buckley

ADDRESS: 166, 1275 Western Road, Brighton

TRADE OR CALLING: Manager

APPLICANT: Alison Buckley

ADDRESS: 166, 1275 Western Road, Brighton

TRADE OR CALLING: Manager

APPLICANT: Alison Buckley

ADDRESS: 166, 1275 Western Road, Brighton

TRADE OR CALLING: Manager

APPLICANT: Alison Buckley

ADDRESS: 166, 1275 Western Road, Brighton

TRADE OR CALLING: Manager

APPLICANT: Alison Buckley

ADDRESS: 166, 1275 Western Road, Brighton

TRADE OR CALLING: Manager

APPLICANT: Alison Buckley

ADDRESS: 166, 1275 Western Road, Brighton

TRADE OR CALLING: Manager

APPLICANT: Alison Buckley

ADDRESS: 166, 1275 Western Road, Brighton

TRADE OR CALLING: Manager

APPLICANT: Alison Buckley

ADDRESS: 166, 1275 Western Road, Brighton

TRADE OR CALLING: Manager

APPLICANT: Alison Buckley

ADDRESS: 166, 1275 Western Road, Brighton

TRADE OR CALLING: Manager

APPLICANT: Alison Buckley

ADDRESS: 166, 1275 Western Road, Brighton

TRADE OR CALLING: Manager

APPLICANT: Alison Buckley

Getting under your skin without getting stuck in

The nightmare of vaccinations could soon be a thing of the past for needlephobes thanks to the jab-free injection.

By Lynn Eaton

If watching junkies shooting up in *Trainspotting* was your worst nightmare or you would rather go to Bognor than have jabs for Borneo, chances are you may have needle phobia - a fear most can understand but few own up to.

"It's all very well being five and terrified, but at 55 you feel a bit stupid," says Jon Fraiser, a phobia expert. Needlephobes avoid medical treatment, dental fillings and even, in one case, essential treatment to prevent a cancer spreading. However, a new device could do away with conventional needles - and remove much of the fear for ever.

Called Inraject, it looks like a pen but contains a small gas cylinder where the cartridge would be. The tip is placed against the skin and, when the gas is released, it forces the liquid injection out under such high pressure that it turns solid, shooting into the skin in the same way a needle would.

"It sounds like great news," says Darren Taylor, who nearly passed out when he went to see *Trainspotting*. "It was a bad choice, that film," says the 26-year-old, who works in Lincolnshire. "I didn't faint, but that was only because I looked away. Anything like that on TV and I can't look. I am really squeamish."

A couple of years ago he went to have a wisdom tooth removed - and fainted at the sight of the needle. "It wasn't that it was particularly painful or anything. It was just the thought of it. I tried to tell myself not to worry, but as the time got closer, I got more and more worked up."

"I had an accident last year and cut my arm quite deeply and needed an injection. On two previous occasions I fainted, but this time I didn't. I was quite proud of myself. But I would rather be knocked on the head with a brick than have an injection. It's just fear of the needle."

Men seem to be more frightened of needles than women. "People who tend to faint are well over six foot and weigh 16 stone," says Sue Taylor, a senior nurse adviser with the Medical Advisory Service for Travellers Abroad (Masta). Picking them off the floor afterwards is no easy task, so many nurses will ask even the slightly queasy to lie on the couch just in case. Although Masta clinics give vaccinations all day, she says they rarely see people who are terrified of needles. "I think needlephobes just stay away."

Paula, 32, who is too embarrassed to give her full name, admits her fear of needles would prevent her going to any exotic holiday destination. "I can't even take my daughter for an injection. I've always been frightened. I've had a lot of bad experiences with blood tests, especially one when the doctor couldn't find a vein. People don't understand. They say it's nothing. But it's so traumatic. It's not the pain, it's the thought of it."

The Inraject device, designed by Weston Medical Limited, is about to



Inraject may mean that you - and Elizabeth Taylor - will never have to face a needle again.

be used in clinical trials with a new drug for hepatitis C being developed by Hoffmann-LaRoche. It is also being considered for use in a flu vaccine. Beyond that, its uses are potentially enormous, says the company's chief executive, Christopher Samler. "We are looking at any drugs that are currently being given by conventional needles and

mones or heparin (an anticoagulant used after surgery to thin the blood). We are not talking about intravenous drugs," says Mr Samler, which rules out the *Trainspotting* set. "But it could be used by people who have an allergy to bee stings or peanuts, who could keep the antidote in a bag to use themselves, if they ever needed it."

Needlephobes dodge medical care and dental fillings. One sufferer even avoided essential treatment to stop a cancer spreading

syringes that have to be given to the subcutaneous tissue - and don't require variable doses."

Which means that people with diabetes who inject daily with variable amounts of insulin won't benefit. At the moment Inraject delivers a fixed dose, which would be put into the device by the drug company.

But it could help people with renal failure or cancer who are injecting erythropoietin (a hormone that stimulates red blood cell production) and those using growth hor-

mones or heparin (an anticoagulant used after surgery to thin the blood). These are available both on the NHS and privately. They begin by explaining how your body reacts when you panic, with a racing heart, sweating and dizziness, and gradually introduce you to the things that you fear. "Explaining the psychological process helps demystify

them to take home and handle. Eventually I may ask their GP or practice nurse to take a small blood sample. I also teach them to challenge negative thoughts, to focus on how brief their distress is going to be and how much they are likely to enjoy their holiday."

Although it doesn't always work, he reckons that most patients will be able to have essential injections afterwards. It may be more practical than waiting for the Inraject, which, after all, will offer only a limited alternative. The manufacturers have yet to come up with a device that will do away with needles for blood tests - the procedure that phobes fear most of all. But they are working on it.

Living with Fear (McGraw Hill), by Professor Isaac Marks, of the Institute of Psychiatry, tackles all phobias, including needles. *Triumph Over Phobia* offers self-help groups run by people who have overcome phobias - for details send an s.a.e. to Triumph Over Phobia UK, PO Box 1831, Bath BA2 4YW; the Institute of Psychiatry runs a computerised course on tackling phobias - call 0171-919 3365

A QUESTION OF HEALTH

A NEW SERIES IN WHICH READERS' HEALTH QUESTIONS ARE ANSWERED BY DR FRED KAVALLIER

My son is too embarrassed to see a doctor

My 13-year-old son has developed firm lumps behind both of his nipples and he is convinced that he is going to grow breasts. He is so overcome with embarrassment that he refuses to show our family doctor. Is there anything we can do to stop them growing?

I'm not surprised that your son is alarmed. He is at a time in his life when he is expecting some of his body parts to grow, but not his breasts. He is showing signs of male adolescent gynaecomastia, which is a fancy name for breast enlargement in teenage boys at the time of puberty.

It can be frightening and even a bit painful. But it is entirely normal and never gets beyond the stage of a small circular lump behind the nipple. Try to reassure him that it is a sign that his adult hormones are coming into play, and point him in the direction of *The Diary of a Teenage Health Freak*, by Aidan Macfarlane and Ann McPherson (Oxford University Press). He doesn't need to see a doctor if he doesn't want to.

I've developed an inguinal hernia and I have been told that the only way to get rid of it is with an operation. Isn't there any other way of curing it, like exercises to strengthen the abdominal muscles?

Hernias (with one special exception) never go away by themselves, and I have never heard of any effective treatment for them apart from surgery. An inguinal hernia is caused by a hole in the muscular wall that holds the intestines inside the abdomen.

The lump that appears is a loop of intestine wiggling its way out through the hole in the muscle. If you are unlucky, it may get stuck, or strangulated, and it then has to be repaired as an emergency. The old-fashioned way of repairing hernias was very similar to darning a sock.

Newer techniques use a piece of mesh, which seems to work just as well, and causes less pain and scarring. The exception to the rule about hernias repairing themselves is when a baby is born with a hernia at the site of the umbilical cord attachment. These can be embarrassingly large, but almost always cure themselves by the age of three or four.

I've been told that I have a chlamydia vaginal infection. Will it make me infertile?

It could make you infertile by causing blocked fallopian tubes and that is why it is absolutely essential that it is effectively treated as soon as possible. Chlamydia infection is caused by a microscopic organism which can be transmitted sexually. It takes two partners to pass chlamy-

dia infection from one to another, and it is equally important for both sexual partners to be tested and treated.

The treatment is with antibiotics. You and your partner should both arrange to go to a genito-urinary medicine clinic. There is increasing evidence in favour of screening all sexually active women for chlamydia, because infections can have no symptoms, but cause serious and long-lasting damage.

My hands are becoming increasingly shaky as I get older (I am now 52). The shaking disappears when I am not trying to hold something steady. My mother had exactly the same complaint and she was told that it is not Parkinson's Disease. Any ideas?

This sounds like essential tremor, a neurological condition which often runs in families. The tremor comes on in middle age and gets more severe with increasing age. Occasionally, there is also some shaking of the head, and the voice can also be a bit tremulous. When the muscles are tired, the tremor is worse. People sometimes notice that an alcoholic drink makes the tremor much better, but the effect of alcohol wears off quite quickly. Beta-blockers sometimes help this type of tremor. You need to talk to your doctor and, if there is any doubt about the cause of the tremor, perhaps you need to see a neurologist.

My toenails are unbelievably mangy and disgusting. Believe it or not, my doctor sent a sample of the nails to the laboratory and discovered that it was caused by a fungus. He refuses to treat them, however, on the grounds that I am a carrier of hepatitis C. This seems completely unreasonable to me.

The most effective treatment for fungal toe nail infections is a tablet called terbinafine, which has to be taken every day for several months. This will cure about 80 per cent of infections. The problem is that a small number of people who take this drug can develop serious liver problems.

If your liver is already damaged by hepatitis C, I can understand your doctor's reluctance to put you at risk of further damage, which can occasionally be life-threatening. There are some nail paints available on prescription for these infections, but none is as effective as terbinafine tablets.

Please send your questions to A Question of Health, The Independent, 1 Canada Square, Canary Wharf, London E14 5DL; Fax 0171-293 2182; unfortunately, Dr Kavallier cannot respond to individual inquiries.

Woman who takes the strain out of pain

Thousands of sufferers have reason to be grateful that Marie Langley refused to heed doctor's orders. By Heather Welford

IT HAPPENED 10 years ago, but Marie Langley can still remember her consultant's words. "He looked at my notes and saw I'd already had spinal surgery and so on. Then he simply said: 'Well, there's nothing I can do for this at all. You'll just have to go away and learn to live with it. Off you go now.'

The "it" Mrs Langley had to live with was constant, grinding pain, the legacy of a bad fall almost five years before. She had slipped on a highly polished floor at the primary school where she was a teacher. She was left facing permanent physical disablity and life in a wheelchair. "After three years I went back to work - but I couldn't manage. It wasn't anything to do with the wheelchair. It was the pain."

Looking at Mrs Langley now, wheelchair-bound but confident, lively and smiling, it is hard to believe that she was ever ground down by depression, anxiety and pain. But hearing the consultant

dismiss any shred of hope triggered an overwhelming depression that led to suicidal feelings.

"I know now that the emotional pain of despair makes physical pain even worse," she says. "Keeping up the facade, hiding the pain and depression from other people, is exhausting. I have found that tackling that emotional pain can be the first step to coping with the physical sort."

Now Mrs Langley, 65, runs Unwind, a non-profit-making international network of support for pain and stress, publishing tapes and books used by thousands of people, and their medical advisers. She is in daily contact with sufferers through her helpline, with other support groups and with physicians and surgeons all over the world.

Mrs Langley's work developed out of her own struggle to find a way out of her pain, knowing that the medical route was closed. With the constant support of her family, she read about some of the mainly American techniques of pain management. She learnt about relaxation techniques to cope with stress and anxiety and researched whole areas of complementary medicine and self-help systems.

The list of therapies she draws from is vast. She uses, among others, aromatherapy, reflexology, massage, visualisation and colour therapy. "The crucial one is relaxation. I use it all the time, literally. I don't have to think about it. It has become second nature."

She stresses that, while she no longer needs painkillers, she's not

against drugs. "Unwind works with doctors, hand in hand with drug therapy, when it's needed. But the crucial thing is that self-help can put the sufferer in control of the pain, and not the other way round."

She explains: "What works for one person may not work for another person. And when you're in any sort of pain, you can suffer setbacks; you can feel nothing anyone can say to you is any good. You've tried everything, and nothing helps. Giving someone a way out of hopelessness can be the first step."

Mrs Langley's background in teaching at primary school has helped her develop her materials. A four-part series of *Break Free* books, each focusing on one aspect (depression, anxiety, pain and negative thoughts), gives sufferers a



Marie Langley in control at home

Will Walker/North News

highly practical step-by-step strategy. "Sometimes, you need to tunnel your way through the pain, but you can only do it in tiny stages," says Mrs Langley. "Sometimes, people just aren't ready to do it. I can sometimes tell in their voice, if they are on the phone, that the time isn't right for them. But we keep in touch, and it may happen later."

Mrs Langley's aim is that doctors

will recommend other treatments to patients rather than sending them away without hope. "Things have really changed in the last 10 years, but people still end up thinking there's no way out. I'd like to see more doctors give patients a list of resources where they can get help for themselves. Why can't they say: 'I'm really sorry we can't take this any further, but here's something you can do for yourself.'"

For Unwind's self-help programmes, send an s.a.e. to 3 Alderton Close, Gilesgate, Durham DH1 1DS

The biggest-ever study of heart disease seemed to show cigarettes were not bad for you. Don't you believe it. By Annabel Ferriman

Cats with rubber teeth prove smoking kills

As someone who managed to give up smoking only by promising myself that I could take it up again when I reached 65, I was delighted to read last week that smoking may not be a risk factor for heart disease after all.

Doctors working on the world's largest study of heart disease – involving 150,000 people in 21 countries – told a cardiology conference in Vienna that the fall in heart disease among the populations studied did not exactly match the decline in the classic risk factors, namely smoking, raised blood pressure, high cholesterol and obesity. In some places where the risk factors declined steeply, the incidence of disease fell only slightly; in others, where the change in risky behaviour was small, the fall was sharp.

So does this mean that we can all ignore the health educators' exhortations to give up smoking and eat less fatty foods? Absolutely not, says Professor Hugh Tunstall-Pedoe, director of the cardiovascular epidemiology unit at Ninewells Hospital, Dundee, and one of the study's chief organisers.

"None of our results suggest that the campaigns against fatty food and smoking were wrong, just that there is more to the story than that. If we had shown a perfect correlation between the classic risk factors and heart disease, that would have made the subject of heart disease rather boring. Instead, our results leave room for the matter to be more complicated," he says.

The study, called the WHO MONICA Project (from MONITORING CARDIOVASCULAR DISEASE), which covers countries as diverse as China, Russia, Canada and Australia, showed that blood pressure and smoking were coming down in most of the populations studied, cholesterol levels were not changing much and people were getting fatter. But the reductions in blood pressure and smoking did not seem to match the fall in heart attacks.

"There were large differences in the rate of decline in populations with similar trends in risk factors," adds Prof Tunstall-Pedoe. "For example, the reduction in risk factors was similar in Glasgow and north Karelia in Finland, yet the fall in

deaths from heart disease was much higher in Karelia."

The professor says that scientists know from hundreds of other studies that the classic risk factors are important. He and his team in Dundee recently published, in the *British Medical Journal*, a study comparing the importance of the classic risk factors with 20 other factors that had been put forward in recent years.

"The classic ones came out on top," he says, "with the exception of one or two minor differences. A diet rich in potassium seemed to have a protective effect against cardiovascular disease and, for women, having a 'type A' – driven, ambitious

– personality, seemed to confer some benefit.

So what is distorting the Monica results? Why isn't the match better? There are four reasons, according to Prof Tunstall-Pedoe. "The first problem is one of measurement. In a study with 38 centres in 21 countries there is a huge problem in standardising measurements. Also, personnel change, so as soon as one team has learned what to do, its members move on.

All results were sent to a data centre in Helsinki, and procedures and results were scrutinised by quality control centres. Although serious failure led to exclusion from the study, if we had excluded every centre with any problems at all, we would have ended up with too few centres.

"Secondly, because most trends – in smoking, blood pressure and heart disease – were going down, we do not have as great a heterogeneity of trends as we would have

liked. The changes we were measuring were not that large compared to the possible errors in measurement. For research purposes – though not for other reasons – we would have liked a better spread of trends, with some going up."

The third problem was one of time lag. If people reduce their risk of heart disease by changing their lifestyle, there is a time lag before the effects are seen.

This seems to vary according to different populations and their characteristics (some populations have naturally low levels of cholesterol, for example), which makes comparisons difficult. The reduction in risk factors among the Scottish population is now paying off in reduced rates of disease, but it has taken longer in that country than in some others.

Finally, Prof Tunstall-Pedoe admits that there may be other determinants of heart disease, apart from the classic risk factors. Some of these, such as diet, were known about when the study was set up 20 years ago, but were too difficult to measure. Others have emerged more recently.

"The importance of eating a diet rich in fruit and vegetables is very strong from the epidemiological standpoint," he says. Such a diet, full of anti-oxidant vitamins, seems to be useful in preventing disease, but no one knows exactly what dose of which vitamin is playing the crucial part.

Another possible cause of heart disease is the presence of low-level chronic infection, according to Professor Brian Pentecost, the medical director of the British Heart Foundation, who welcomed the study. But this factor has emerged in recent years, and was not suspected when the Monica study was set up.

"There have been a number of pilot studies of antibiotic treatment being given to people who have had heart attacks and who have evidence of infection, which have shown some benefit in preventing further attacks," says Prof Pentecost. Various infections have been implicated, including chronic periodontal disease and chlamydia, but it is not known which are important.

If chronic low-grade infection were found to be a culprit in heart disease, it would help to explain why



The fall in smoking did not match the reduction in heart disease, but that is no reason to think cigarettes are safe

the disease is more prevalent among socially deprived populations than among the wealthy, but the fact that smoking is also more common among the poor confuses the picture.

The Monica study also considered the efficacy of the different treatments, but was unable to say which of them was best. It could only say that "those populations which showed the most rapid increase in

new treatments tended to be those in which heart attack survival and mortality were improving most".

Another factor may have been in play. "Those countries that adopted the most modern treatments were also the wealthiest, so it may have been the wealth and material quality of life that played as great a part in reducing death as the treatments themselves," says Prof Pentecost.

Or, as Prof Tunstall-Pedoe puts it: "If you get eaten by a crocodile when you are expecting lions and tigers, it does not mean that big cats have rubber teeth."

People love the idea of a study

that overturns all the health rules of the last 20 years, partly because they want permission to indulge their habits but also because they like the idea that all those clever doctors got it wrong. But they cannot seize on this one as an answer to their prayers.

Beating the booze with a dry sense of humour

NICK CHARLES can still remember a time he was so drunk that he jumped from the window of a rural police station into a vat of sour milk from a neighbouring dairy farm. Recovered alcoholics invariably have great stories, but as Charles reminds patients at his West London clinic: "Any story about drunkenness is only funny if you're not going to do it again."

He has been sober for the last 21 years, and has devoted the last nine to helping other alcoholics at the Chaucer Clinic in the grounds of Ealing Hospital. Since founding the clinic nine years ago he's helped some 8,000 alcoholics "unlearn" their habits, claiming an 87 per

cent success rate. Last September, he received the MBE for his services to alcoholics.

Charles, a straight-talking Midlander, is modest about his achievements, personal and otherwise. He stresses that he is not in recovery, but rather "just a guy who doesn't drink any more. I couldn't even tell you if my wife has a bottle of wine in the fridge." No mean achievement for someone who spent years sleeping rough, knocking back meths and hair lacquer. After being hospitalised 23 times, he finally quit drinking when he discovered that his mother had been killed by a passing car. The funeral had already taken place and Charles will never know

which can include profuse sweating, anxiety attacks and fits.

After detoxification, patients are given work therapy. They may repair furniture, paint walls, cook, clean, or work in the office. "Alcohol has been their dearest friend for years and when you take it away from them you leave an enormous void, so a day lasts for ever," says Charles. "Some of them have not worked for years." During their free time, clients are encouraged to pursue childhood hobbies, take up new ones, or share their expertise with others.

The third phase of treatment involves group discussions and individual therapy, designed to help patients confront the trauma that

He is 'one of the unfortunate few for whom drink opens the door to an inner world where real life does not exist'

cent success rate. Last September, he received the MBE for his services to alcoholics.

Charles, a straight-talking Midlander, is modest about his achievements, personal and otherwise. He stresses that he is not in recovery, but rather "just a guy who doesn't drink any more. I couldn't even tell you if my wife has a bottle of wine in the fridge." No mean achievement for someone who spent years sleeping rough, knocking back meths and hair lacquer. After being hospitalised 23 times, he finally quit drinking when he discovered that his mother had been killed by a passing car. The funeral had already taken place and Charles will never know

triggered their alcoholism. The stories can be harrowing, although Charles says there is the odd miracle amid the tragedy. One man was

there for seven months before he could admit he had accidentally killed his own child.

whether her death was suicide, or was caused by a moment of absent-mindedness. Either way, his father said she was "distressed" by her son's alcoholism.

Ironically, it was his father who offered the teenage Charles his first drink. "Suddenly, I was better-looking, more confident, a better driver; everything I wanted to be," if only.

He is, he admits, one of "the unfortunate few for whom drink opens the

door to an inner world where real life does not exist". Social drinkers cannot appreciate what that means. Charles says: "Doctors, social workers and journalists may try to be sympathetic. But they can never grasp the extent of conceit, delusion and dishonesty in the mind of the alcoholic."

Charles married for the first time at the age of 21 and divorced six years later, "by which time I was un-

employable". His second marriage, which he recalls only dimly "through the bottom of a glass", lasted nine months. He now lives in Surrey with Kelly, his third wife and soulmate for the past 21 years. His grandfather, a senior policeman, died of drink, and Kelly's mother was an alcoholic. Convinced that 90 per cent of alcoholics have a genetic intolerance to alcohol, the couple decided long ago not to have children.

Instead, Charles has his patients and his staff, usually former alcoholics. The Chaucer treats 36 patients at a time, whose weekly fees of £268 are paid for by the DSS, the local authority and from each resident's income support allowance. Along with the celebrity names, residents have included footballers, army officers and a headmistress.

Alcoholics Anonymous, "the only alternative to my clinic", didn't work

for Charles, and he is critical of the programme because it allows people to prolong their "recovery", in some cases for a lifetime, and thus swap one dependency for another.

Alcoholics stay at the Chaucer clinic for at least 13 weeks, but no more than eight months. The programme begins with detoxification, when a patient is supervised by a doctor and, if necessary, prescribed Librium to counter withdrawal symptoms,

and Nick Charles's autobiography, *Through A Glass Brightly*, is published by Robson books, price £16.99.

For referrals to the Chaucer Clinic contact Nikki de Villiers (0181-571-616).

Andrew Burman

One man was at the clinic for seven months before he could admit he had accidentally killed his own child

which can include profuse sweating, anxiety attacks and fits.

After detoxification, patients are given work therapy. They may repair furniture, paint walls, cook, clean, or work in the office. "Alcohol has been their dearest friend for years and when you take it away from them you leave an enormous void, so a day lasts for ever," says Charles. "Some of them have not worked for years." During their free time, clients are encouraged to pursue childhood hobbies, take up new ones, or share their expertise with others.

The third phase of treatment involves group discussions and individual therapy, designed to help patients confront the trauma that

triggered their alcoholism. The stories can be harrowing, although Charles says there is the odd miracle amid the tragedy. One man was

there for seven months before he could admit he had accidentally killed his own child.

which can include profuse sweating, anxiety attacks and fits.

After detoxification, patients are given work therapy. They may repair furniture, paint walls, cook, clean, or work in the office. "Alcohol has been their dearest friend for years and when you take it away from them you leave an enormous void, so a day lasts for ever," says Charles. "Some of them have not worked for years." During their free time, clients are encouraged to pursue childhood hobbies, take up new ones, or share their expertise with others.

The third phase of treatment involves group discussions and individual therapy, designed to help patients confront the trauma that

triggered their alcoholism. The stories can be harrowing, although Charles says there is the odd miracle amid the tragedy. One man was

there for seven months before he could admit he had accidentally killed his own child.

which can include profuse sweating, anxiety attacks and fits.

After detoxification, patients are given work therapy. They may repair furniture, paint walls, cook, clean, or work in the office. "Alcohol has been their dearest friend for years and when you take it away from them you leave an enormous void, so a day lasts for ever," says Charles. "Some of them have not worked for years." During their free time, clients are encouraged to pursue childhood hobbies, take up new ones, or share their expertise with others.

The third phase of treatment involves group discussions and individual therapy, designed to help patients confront the trauma that

triggered their alcoholism. The stories can be harrowing, although Charles says there is the odd miracle amid the tragedy. One man was

there for seven months before he could admit he had accidentally killed his own child.

which can include profuse sweating, anxiety attacks and fits.

After detoxification, patients are given work therapy. They may repair furniture, paint walls, cook, clean, or work in the office. "Alcohol has been their dearest friend for years and when you take it away from them you leave an enormous void, so a day lasts for ever," says Charles. "Some of them have not worked for years." During their free time, clients are encouraged to pursue childhood hobbies, take up new ones, or share their expertise with others.

The third phase of treatment involves group discussions and individual therapy, designed to help patients confront the trauma that

triggered their alcoholism. The stories can be harrowing, although Charles says there is the odd miracle amid the tragedy. One man was

there for seven months before he could admit he had accidentally killed his own child.

which can include profuse sweating, anxiety attacks and fits.

After detoxification, patients are given work therapy. They may repair furniture, paint walls, cook, clean, or work in the office. "Alcohol has been their dearest friend for years and when you take it away from them you leave an enormous void, so a day lasts for ever," says Charles. "Some of them have not worked for years." During their free time, clients are encouraged to pursue childhood hobbies, take up new ones, or share their expertise with others.

The third phase of treatment involves group discussions and individual therapy, designed to help patients confront the trauma that

triggered their alcoholism. The stories can be harrowing, although Charles says there is the odd miracle amid the tragedy. One man was

there for seven months before he could admit he had accidentally killed his own child.

which can include profuse sweating, anxiety attacks and fits.

After detoxification, patients are given work therapy. They may repair furniture, paint walls, cook, clean, or work in the office. "Alcohol has been their dearest friend for years and when you take it away from them you leave an enormous void, so a day lasts for ever," says Charles. "Some of them have not worked for years." During their free time, clients are encouraged to pursue childhood hobbies, take up new ones, or share their expertise with others.

The third phase of treatment involves group discussions and individual therapy, designed to help patients confront the trauma that

triggered their alcoholism. The stories can be harrowing, although Charles says there is the odd miracle amid the tragedy. One man was

there for seven months before he could admit he had accidentally killed his own child.

which can include profuse sweating, anxiety attacks and fits.

After detoxification, patients are given work therapy. They may repair furniture, paint walls, cook, clean, or work in the office. "Alcohol has been their dearest friend for years and when you take it away from them you leave an enormous void, so a day lasts for ever," says Charles. "Some of them have not worked for years." During their free time, clients are encouraged to pursue childhood hobbies, take up new ones, or share their expertise with others.

The third phase of treatment involves group discussions and individual therapy, designed to help patients confront the trauma that

triggered their alcoholism. The stories can be harrowing, although Charles says there is the odd miracle amid the tragedy. One man was

there for seven months before he could admit he had accidentally killed his own child.

which can include profuse sweating, anxiety attacks and fits.

After detoxification, patients are given work therapy. They may repair furniture, paint walls, cook, clean, or work in the office. "Alcohol has been their dearest friend for years and when you take it away from them you leave an enormous void, so a day lasts for ever," says Charles. "Some of them have not worked for years." During their free time, clients are encouraged to pursue childhood hobbies, take up new ones, or share their expertise with others.

The third phase of treatment involves group discussions and individual therapy, designed to help patients confront the trauma that

triggered their alcoholism. The stories can be harrowing, although Charles says there is the odd miracle amid the tragedy. One man was

there for seven months before he could admit he had accidentally killed his own child.

which can include profuse sweating, anxiety attacks and fits.

After detoxification, patients are given work therapy. They may repair furniture, paint walls, cook, clean, or work in the office. "Alcohol has been their dearest friend for years and when you take it away from them you leave an enormous void, so a day lasts for ever," says Charles. "Some of them have not worked for years." During their free time, clients are encouraged to pursue childhood hobbies, take up new ones, or share their expertise with others.

The third phase of treatment involves group discussions and individual therapy, designed to help patients confront the trauma that

triggered their alcoholism. The stories can be harrowing, although Charles says there is the odd miracle amid the tragedy. One man was

there for seven months before he could admit he had accidentally killed his own child.

MEDIA

Premier League clubs may want to be players in the media market – will that be good or bad for the fans? By Paul McCann

Premier teams prepare to kick into digital TV

It has often been said that once a millionaire has more money than he can ever spend he gets himself three things: a new wife, a newspaper and a football team. This adage, without the bit about a new wife, looks like becoming a business strategy rather than just a stereotype of the millionaire's ego.

News Corporation and Tottenham Hotspur have convincingly killed last week's story that they are in talks that would see Rupert Murdoch become the first media baron to own an English football team since Robert Maxwell's involvement with Oxford United in the Eighties.

But developments at Manchester United this month show that television and football will increasingly become the same business. And it shows that it may be football that moves into media, rather than the other way around.

Despite Murdoch's purchase of the Los Angeles Dodgers for £200m, in March this year his move into the Premier League is not inevitable.

"In the UK there is no local television market," says Matthew Horsman, who is a media analyst at the brokers Henderson Crosthwaite. "Owning the Dodgers allows you to exploit their local television deals. Here, you are dealing with a monopolistic organisation – the Football League."

Horsman believes that one of the barriers for Sky entering the football business itself is that it would irritate the rest of the teams in the league. They would not want to deal with Sky both as a buyer of foot-

ball rights, and as one of the joint owners of those rights.

What would cause this to change is the outcome of a Restrictive Practices Court case in January, brought by the Office of Fair Trading against the Premier League.

The OFT wants the court to decide whether the Premiership teams' grouping of themselves together to sell their television rights in one deal amounts to a monopoly.

The deal is under scrutiny by May.

"If the OFT wins the case, the television rights to games will revert back to clubs and will present us with a very interesting scenario," says Maurice Watkins, Manchester United's solicitor.

"As things stand, the case is being defended by the Premier League and the clubs who make it up." But Manchester United has put itself in a position to benefit whichever way the case plays out.

The Old Trafford giant launched its own digital channel earlier this month, in a joint venture with Granada and Sky. At present, it is little more than an electronic version of the official club magazines.

There is archive footage of old United games, and there will be player interviews, team news, and importantly, a home shopping service for merchandise. But this amounts to a peripheral business, leveraging extra value from fans' obsessional relationship with their teams.

Paul Ridley, the managing director of MUTV, argues that he is giving

access to those who are unable to see Manchester United play. "The fan base for Manchester United is 4 million. But only 56,000 can get in to a game at Old Trafford."

Brian Barwick, head of sport at ITV, is watching developments with interest: "There is an inevitability about team channels and, because there is no bigger team in town than Manchester United, everyone will be watching the level of interest."

Only Manchester United, and perhaps Rangers in Scotland, have a big enough fan base to have a dedicated television channel to themselves. If the business takes off, there are likely to be joint channels offering split programming. Paul Ridley believes that the channels are needed because of the way football has changed: "Football is no longer just about kicking a ball. Football is show business and celebrity. It is David Beckham and Posh Spice."

But, as *The Guardian* sports-writer Jim White pointed out when debating with Ridley at the Edinburgh Television Festival, on 16 September MUTV will be showing Red Hot Update and Vintage Reds, while the football team will be playing in the Champions' League.

"The key to the whole thing is to show the football," said White, who also writes for a United fanzine. "It is about obtaining the rights to live matches."

Which is why Manchester United wins, even if it and the Premier League "lose" in the Restrictive Practices Court. If the deal with Sky and the BBC is torn up, it will free teams with their own channels to cut



Man United's dedicated digital channel is a whole new ball-game for Alex Ferguson's team and the fans

David Ashdown

out the middleman and charge viewers for games themselves.

Tempting as this may seem to the big clubs, there remains a number of questions about how they would actually charge viewers, and the effect that this would have.

Subscription works at the moment, but only on the basis of fans being able to see an entire league,

not just their team. As was pointed out in the Edinburgh debate, many of those tuning in to see Manchester United play are hoping to see them get beaten.

Pay-per-view has been proved to work, for some one-off boxing matches, but no one knows whether it is sustainable for an entire football league. The teams have to work out

if they want to create electronic season ticket holders, or just use pay-per-view for special games.

When Sky proposed pay-per-view to the Premier League chairman earlier this year, it was proposing to charge extra for games it does not currently show.

The creation of a European super-league would also provide a

new television product that could be charged for on a pay-per-view basis.

What all these developments have in common is the move of football companies away from being sports' companies to being media owners. And once they are all media owners, there is far more chance that Rupert Murdoch will be joining them as a football club owner.

A fair warning: journos, check your facts

Three US journalists are sacked for lying. We should take note. By Andrew Marshall in Washington

THE STORY of Mike Barnicle, the columnist at the *Boston Globe* whose columns failed the fact test, seemed to be over once he had resigned. It wasn't.

James Hirsch, who covered the story for *The Wall Street Journal*, wrote that the New York Times Company, which owns the *Globe*, had "declined to comment." As it turned out, he had not called the NYT's spokesperson Nancy Nielsen, and she had issued a two-sentence statement. It wasn't much, but it was something, and that was that for Mr Hirsch. He was dismissed.

The last year has seen an epidemic of resignations, sackings and disciplining in the American media. Steven Glass turned out fallacious articles for *The New Republic* and others; CNN's ill-fated Tailwind story, claiming that the US had used nerve gas during the Vietnam War and against American deserters, was swiftly rubbished; as well as Mr Barnicle. Patricia Smith, also of the *Boston Globe*, resigned after inventing people and quotes.

Leaving the electronic media to one side, the cases of Mr Hirsch, Mr Barnicle and Mr Glass are all quite different. In particular, most journalists will feel a frisson over the Hirsch case. What he wrote was certainly untrue, but, in the context of the lives most reporters lead, the lie was understandable. Mr Hirsch himself told *The New York Times* that he had been on a tight deadline, and had thought (based on earlier conversations with Ms Nielsen) that she would have no comment. Most journalists would count her statement as a volatile form of "no comment."

Steven Glass, on the other hand, would not have lasted 10 minutes at the *Journal*. He made up stories from start to finish, even going to the length of fabricating a website and a voice-mail box for a company that he had invented.

Mike Barnicle falls somewhere in the middle, in a way that illustrates something important about all three cases.

He was a long-time city columnist for the *Globe* who had risen through the ranks. He was writing in a tradition popularised by writers such as Jimmy Breslin and Mike Royko, of straightforward, hard-hitting messages presented through narratives of local folk and their ways. The column for which Mr Barnicle was pulled up concerned two children in a cancer ward, one white, one black. It was a heartwarming story of hands stretched across a racial and class divide, but it proved impossible to substantiate.

The culture within which writers such as Mr Barnicle grew up was more accommodating to the foibles of these journalists than, say, to court reporters. Newspapers have cultures that set the standards as much as contracts or written rules. But, over time, these cultures change. Mr Barnicle may not have been sufficiently aware of the shift.

Mr Glass was clearly operating outside any relationship with the truth. He had moved rapidly to the *New Republic*, a magazine with a high reputation to defend. He did not understand that and continued to act in the way he had on much smaller publications, where a collision with the outside world was less likely. Mr Hirsch had the misfortune to make a slip-up on the wrong story – one that concerned reporters making things up, and about a rival newspaper group, where the standards of expected behaviour were far more rigorous.

Both Mr Hirsch and Mr Glass knew that what they were doing was wrong, but the former did not think it was significant, and the latter thought he wouldn't get caught. Mr Barnicle's case seems to be different. He believed what he was doing was right, because it had been in the past.

The media is in the throes of great change, upsetting old assumptions about what is and isn't right. In particular print is increasingly a hard-nosed business driven by managers, not journalists, and some cosy old subcultures are disintegrating under that pressure. Equally, the media is big news in America, and under greater scrutiny than ever before. All three journalists were shopped by other media: Mr Hirsch by the New York Times Company, Mr Barnicle by a former employee of the *Reader's Digest*, and Mr Glass by another magazine.

Journalists are also a popular target. The press and television are not held in high regard by Americans, and the Monica Lewinsky affair has not helped. Many criticisms of the early reporting of the affair – that it was unsourced and not based in reliable fact – have lessened now that it is clear that the stories had substance. But while the media may feel vindicated, most people think the story has been over-reported, and want to know less about it.

The hunting-season has probably only just begun. Scott Shugur, who writes a regular column on the press for the Internet service "Slate," says that there are two more journalists on other papers who are "plagiarists and fiction writers," and that he may publicly expose them. Plenty of people would be happy to see more journalists out on their ear. That sound that you hear in the newsrooms may just be the noise of axes grinding: it's time to start making that extra call, and checking your notebooks.

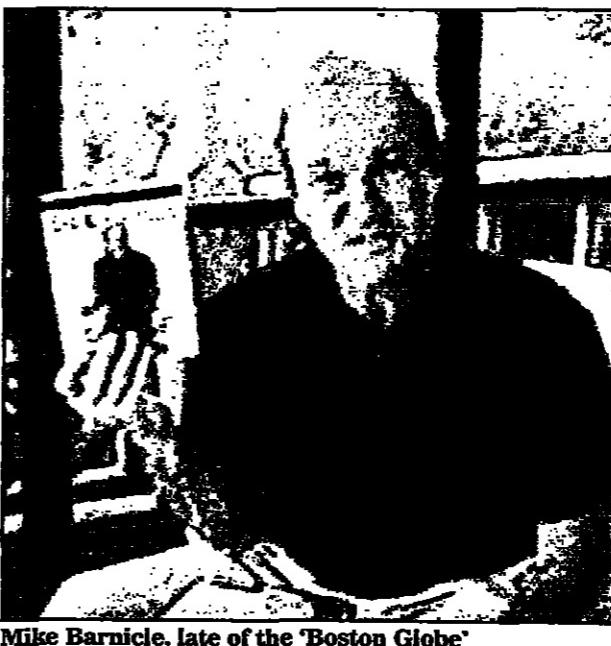
I'm a bit of a HOOT in the office.
At home I want somebody to entertain me.
I want to watch SEINFELD every night.
Not just once a week.

CAN'T WAIT. WON'T WAIT.

FRIDAY NIGHT COMEDY EVERY NIGHT

7PM Roseanne	9PM Ellen	11PM Britcom
7.30 Cosby	9.30 Seinfeld	11.30 Larry Sanders
8PM Grace Under Fire	10PM Frasier	12PM Letterman
8.30 Spin City	10.30 Cheers	1AM Saturday Night Live

COMEDY CHANNEL



Mike Barnicle, late of the 'Boston Globe'

Writing t
the Write

Diana: the story of the story

On Saturday 30 August 1997, as midnight passed, a few journalists prepared to while away the time until their shifts ended. Five hours later, the story of the decade had broken. Gabriel Thompson tells the story of the night Diana died

12.30-1.10am: 'Have you heard the news?'

It had been a good night out and after a little too much wine I decided that a cup of coffee before bed was a good idea. Waiting for the kettle to boil I turned on the television as the first reports of the crash were coming in. From my time working on the *Independent on Sunday* I knew that its news operation closed at 12.30. It was going to miss the story completely I panicked, and reached for the telephone.

Elsewhere in London, Richard Sambrook was being teased about the fact that he always carried a pager. Sambrook, the BBC's head of newsgathering, pointed out: "I need it in case the Queen Mother dies, or something." A few minutes later, the pager went off.

At *The Sunday Times*, the night editor Ian Coxon was drinking coffee as an uneventful day drew to a close. A colleague rushed into the room with news of the crash. Coxon didn't get to finish his coffee.

After 15 minutes of fuming at colleagues' answering machines and swearing at endless ringing tones, I got through to Colin Hughes, then deputy editor of *The Independent*, who was at home in bed. As I told him what had happened, Hughes said immediately: "She's dead."

Another journalist caught the late-night news and rushed off to his office. He completely forgot to tell his wife what he was doing.

1.10-2.30am 'Stop the presses'

Hughes made up his mind. There was no one at the *Independent on Sunday*, but he was a reporter and I was a sub. We could be at the office in 30 minutes, and get a front page out to the printers by 2.30am – our last chance of the night. He rang the printers and told them to stop the presses. He ran for his car, and I jumped into a cab.

At *The Sunday Times*, Coxon was blessing his luck. Not only did he have enough staff, but by coincidence, the paper's royal correspondent was doing a stint on the night news desk.

Nik Gowing, one of BBC World Television's most experienced new presenters, had been asleep for just 40 minutes when the telephone rang. By 1.30am he was in a cab heading for the office. By 2.30am he was broadcasting live – and would continue to do so until 7.30am.

At one radio station, a beleaguered reporter was so afraid to leave his desk that he resorted to relieving himself into a Coke bottle.

2.30-3.30am 'Does anyone KNOW anything?'

After the first rush to get the news out, everyone began the hunt for hard facts.

At *The Independent on Sunday* we had been given a reprieve by the printers, and a deadline – 3.30am. Most other papers had also managed to get a story about the crash out to their printers, and were preparing the next edition.

At the BBC, they had decided to broadcast their 24-hour World channel on both BBC1 and BBC2 throughout the night.

Everyone was wondering what had happened to Diana. Buckingham Palace had delayed making a statement; there was no real information coming from the Government; the French authorities were being obtuse.

I was talking to a French radio station trading "live interview with British journalist" for any news they had. They knew no more than we did. Gowing was growing more and more suspicious as he tried to separate fact from speculation. Coxon feared that the very paucity of information indicated that there was grim news to come.

We knew Dodi was dead. But Diana? She was concussed, she had a broken arm, she was severely injured – which story to believe?

In the midst of all this, Gowing's desktop printer broke down. Looking for some technical support, he spotted a chap with a beard and wearing jeans, wandering through the newsroom. Gowing demanded his aid in fixing the printer. The bearded man looked surprised but did oblige. And that is how Gowing first met Richard Ayre, deputy chief executive of BBC News.

3.30-4.30am 'The Manila connection'

Our luck changed. Because the crash was in France, it was a matter for the Foreign Office. Robin Cook, the Foreign Secretary, was in Manila. The time difference meant that Cook and his staff were already out of bed and therefore fair game for the British reporters who had accompanied them on the trip.

The official version is that Diana's death was confirmed just

before Sam London time. The truth is that, long before then, the reporters with Cook had rung in with unofficial confirmation of the death. All night we had survived on official statements and guesswork. Finally, we had hard news about Diana.

Sadly, the news was that Diana was dead.

4.30-5.30am 'Diana killed in crash'

Hard news was finally arriving. We learnt that there would be an announcement simultaneously in Paris and Manila, shortly before 5am. At *The Independent on Sunday* we had already acted on Cawthron's information and remade the front page with the story of Diana's death. The page was sent

to the print sites with strict instructions that they were not to start printing without our say-so.

The confirmation came just before 5am. We were printing it three minutes later.

At the BBC, Gowing read the confirmation – a "snap" from the Press Association – twice on air. Twenty minutes later, Buckingham Palace issued its own confirmation. Gowing had his first and only attack of nerves, and calmly announced the news. No one knows for sure how many people around the world saw that broadcast, but the best estimate is 500 million.

5.30-7.30am 'Time to go home'

The end of the story had been told. No newspaper could keep printing any longer. Television and radio had reported the news and were now looking for more angles, and more opinions, to flesh out the coverage.

At *The Sunday Times*, Coxon was already thinking about how the

paper would deal with the story in the following week's edition.

At *The Independent on Sunday*, Hughes was calling in staff from the daily *Independent* to prepare the next day's paper.

Gowing handed over to another presenter and slipped quietly away. Sambrook was organising the movement of reports, cameramen, engineers and equipment to Paris.

I couldn't get a taxi home – they were all booked to rush journalists to their newsrooms around London.

It was a new day. Sambrook was delighted to discover that a royal correspondent had cut short her holiday in Devon and was on her way to London. By taxi.

A freelance cameraman was sent to Buckingham Palace. He found plenty of people – almost all clubbers who had been dancing the night away as the news broke.

As for the journalist who rushed off to his office without telling his wife what he was doing – she caught him coming home at 7.30am, and still thinks he's having an affair.

THE WORD ON THE STREET

AN EDINBURGH Television Festival Session on honesty in documentaries started to cut up rough for *The Guardian* when some of the audience started to attack its media editor, who was chairing the session. They were unhappy about his paper's exposure of Carlton's allegedly fake documentary *The Connection*. The backlash will not end there. It is rumoured that Clark Productions, which made the *Hard News* series, is investigating *The Guardian* story. A documentary more sympathetic to the paper is being made by another production company and there are tales of antagonism between the two investigative teams. Proof, if it were needed, that the media is ready to disappear up its own behind at the drop of a hat.

COMPETITION TO be the most famous person at the festival was unusually stiff this year, with one Edward Windsor appearing close to Ms Louise Woodward on the delegate list. Mr Windsor, of Ardent Productions, had to collect his delegate tickets just like everyone else and dutifully hand them in. However, his bodyguard just gave the ticket collectors a hard stare before going wherever he wanted, and Ardent's travel people did not have to baffle to get a last-minute hotel booking. He apparently stayed at Holyrood Palace. Less happy with his accommodation was the media correspondent of *The Express*. Rather than stay in a hotel he was given the *Express* flat, which had been used by arts writers; it looked like one of the junies flats in *Trainspotting*. There were no sheets, no towels, no toilet paper and no hot water. Beer cans were piled high. Once, under Beaverton, it was a point of honour for *Express* correspondents to travel in greater style than rivals, staying at the best hotels in every city in the world. What a difference 3 million copies a day makes.

ELISABETH MURDOCH's address to the festival was so emphatically delivered that most discussion afterwards was about who her drama coach is. But she wasn't the only one with an image consultant working hard for her. Louise Woodward arrived at a sponsor's party holding hands with the young daughter of her lawyer, Barry Scheck. It made a most touching image.



PRINCESS DIANA HAS DIED
Confirmed by Buckingham Palace

BBC announcer Nik Gowing reads the official confirmation of the death of Diana, Princess of Wales, at 5.17am

The world of work has changed. Hunter Davies looks back on 40 years of being a happy hack

Working to find the write stuff

I STARTED work 40 years ago today. I still have the letter framed on my wall, from Robert Walker, news editor of the *Manchester Evening Chronicle*, confirming my appointment as a reporter. The salary in September 1958 was £14 a week.

I was 22 and had just left Durham University where I had written for *Postgraduate*, the student paper, and I thought, "how do I get a real job doing this?" The university appointments people were no help, though someone in my college said that a bloke called Harry Evans, who had been at the college eight years earlier, was now in journalism.

I found out there were two so-called training schemes for graduates – Westminster Press and Kemsley Newspapers. I chose Kemsley – which then became Thomson – because their papers were in big cities. The Withy Grove, Manchester office of Kemsley was the biggest newspaper office in Europe. Apart from the *Chron*, which boasted 1 million readers every night, they produced the northern editions of nationals, such as *The Sunday Times*, *Empire News*, *Sunday Graphic* and *Sunday Chronicle*, plus the *Daily Mirror*, *News of the World* and *The Daily Telegraph*.

The training scheme was a joke. No courses, no exams. I did go to shorthand lessons, found myself with a class of 14-year-old girls, and gave up. They were too quick for me.

The advantage, for a graduate, was that if you survived a year they might move you around in the group. For the first few weeks I was sent out with a senior reporter, Barry Cockcroft. We would go to the scene of a crime or accident. Barry would get a few quotes from the police, the fire chief,

a couple of witnesses – then he'd rush to a telephone box and dictate a story that made sense straight off.

When my time came, I stood behind the phone box for about two hours, scribbling away, and I got an awful bollocking from the deputy news editor, who hated me and hated all graduates, because I had missed three editions. In those days, the *Chron* and our deadly rival the *News*, had about six different editions a day.

I slowly realised this was all a trick. Barry had about five columns that didn't turn out so regular. The *London Evening Standard* gave me the push after six months because I was praising comprehensives too often. I think *The Independent on Sunday* sacked me because they wanted a woman columnist.

I was the TV critic on the *Mail on Sunday*'s Night and Day section for six months when the editor, Jocelyn Targett, came all the way from London to the Lake District to see me in his chauffeur-driven Jag. We did a 10-minute walk to the lake, he sacked me, got in his Jag and drove back. I was so amazed I forgot to ask why. It came out later that David Engle had taken against me, especially when I boasted I'd never seen *EastEnders*.

This is the nature of anyone in the media. In the olden days, papers were grossly over-staffed, so if you fell out of favour, you could sit around and have longer lunches.

These days, there are no lunches, for most hacks. They sit silent in front of their screen all day, in their vast open plan offices, not talking, not communing, working late, seeing very little of real life, which is why they have to get their inspiration from the rest of the media.

Most hacks sit silently in front of their screen, not talking, not communing, seeing little of real life

I formats for such news stories, which fitted almost anything.

After nine months, I was moved to London on the *Sunday Graphic*. It was Fleet Street. Nine months later, in January 1960, I joined *The Sunday Times*.

I was the boy reporter on the *Atticus* column, under Robert Robinson, and then Nicholas Tomlin. I thought "I'm stuck here; I'll never move up; you have to be Oxbridge or public school." And it was pretty boring, having to write about who would be the next Bishop of London or Master of Balliol. Then, in the mid-Sixties it all changed. I was able to write about the people I wanted to: gritty northern writers, scruffy Cockney photographers, Liver-



The young journalist Hunter Davies in the Sixties

They are all following each other's tales. Today, I work every morning on my books, then around one o'clock, I get a call from some breathless executive, straight out of morning conference, who will say, "Quick, Hunt, can you do us 500 words on trainers?" "What's the angle," I say. "Oh, there's a par saying that Nike's shares have fallen." I was asked by three different papers to do that. They all saw the same little story and thought of the same follow-up.

Papers don't have the staff feature writers they once had, and the differences between tabloid and broadsheet have almost disappeared. Executives move around between them, and they take their contacts with them. I did that piece on trainers for – or if it appeared – but I did get paid...

March of the old men marks Sky's new dawn

ANALYSIS

PAUL McCANN

FROM ONE angle the defection

last week of Jimmy Hill from the BBC to Sky's Sports News channel looks a little like the creation of a television retirement home in the sky.

Hill, the veteran sports pundit and broadcaster, has joined forces with that other television institution, Barry Norman, who moved from the BBC to Sky in June.

The fact that both men are in the autumn of their careers

Hill is 70 and Norman 54 – looks to some as though they have decided to make some serious money before they think about retiring permanently to the celebrity golf circuit.

Others are inclined to view these two defections as the beginning of a much-heralded move of terrestrial institutions to Sky. The argument goes that, just as sport has moved largely to television, so eventually the top-rating shows and stars from terrestrial channels will follow the money.

Indeed, it is an old saw of media reporting that every year, when Granada's contract to supply *Coronation Street* to ITV comes up for renewal, a story appears in the press claiming that the soap is about to move to Sky.

Elizabeth Murdoch, Sky's general manager, has declared her intention to turn Sky 1 into a general entertainment channel to compete with ITV and Channel 5.

In order to do this Murdoch will need her own home-made programmes, because UK audiences are heroically resistant to imported programmes, and because we have a smaller proportion of foreign programmes in peak time than any other equivalent market.

If Ms Murdoch is hunting for home-grown talent, the obvious place to look is terrestrial television. This has prompted fears of spiralling talent inflation, just like the sports rights inflation that was created when Sky got out its sports chequebook.

However, it should be argued that the two swallows, Hill and Norman, do not a Sky summer make.

The satellite broadcaster's profits are down this year because of its funding of new digital channels and its subsidy for set-top decoders.

It looks as though Norman and Hill want some serious money before they retire permanently to celebrity golf

Indeed, frankly, does not have the cash to go on a spending spree for something of such value.

And even without its digital commitments, once Sky's spending on sports rights – and that's mainly Premier League football – is taken out of its programme budget, its star-buying powers are dwarfed by BBC1 and ITV.

Instead Sky's programming has followed the pattern of Fox, its sister network in America. Fox has succeeded by buying American football rights and then innovating in the other parts of its schedules. Sitcoms such as *The Simpsons* and *Married with Children* upset American moralists when the station wholesale lifted it is not in Sky's plans.

They will miss me around World Cup time, but, apart from that, it won't make much difference to them, me going.

Hill will also be part of Sky's digital services, and undoubtedly there will be further smash-and-grab raids on terrestrial institutions as the broadcaster seeks to fill its hundreds of channels. However, wholesale lifting is not in Sky's plans.

JAVICCO 15-D

TEL: 0171 293 2222

MEDIA, MARKETING, SALES

EXHIBITION SALES MANAGER
to launch two major exhibitions in London during 1999.

Having successfully sold and managed our own recruitment exhibitions in London over the last eighteen months, Independent Magazines, part of a global company with publishing interests in Australasia, South Africa and Europe, are seeking an experienced Exhibitions Sales Manager who can take our plan to the next stage. You must be able to demonstrate a track record in exhibition sales and organisation with a portfolio of successful exhibitions and events, preferably within the UK. A strong team player and financially astute, you will be required to manage and motivate a small sales team, as well as deal with the day to day organisation of these major events. Experience and contacts in the exhibition business is vital as you will be responsible for delivering the bottom line budgets for these events spearheaded by your ideas and know how. Must be computer literate and familiar with the London market.

EXHIBITION SALESPERSON

required for the above. Although exhibition and event experience is not essential it would be preferred. Must be a team player and be prepared to work hard in this very competitive market.

Salary packages are negotiable but will reflect the importance of these positions within the company. Opportunities are boundless for those who can demonstrate the drive, enthusiasm and talent needed to make our ideas real.

In the first instance fax your CV with current salary details to
The Managing Director on 0171 872 0804
or telephone 0171 636 6651

Independent Magazines
7-9 Rathbone Street, London W1P 1AF

GROUP AD MANAGER

Paragon Publishing is a dynamic, independent publishing company based in Bournemouth. Formed in 1990, Paragon currently publishes a range of successful books and magazines for various markets, including video games, Internet and computing.

With 25% market share of the video games market and 30% of the Internet market, Paragon is keen to build on this success with further trailblazing launches and acquisitions.

Due to exciting expansion plans, Paragon requires a Group Ad Manager to head the Ad Sales Department. The role will entail co-ordinating, controlling and maximising the efforts and performance of the advertising sales function. The successful candidate will have to motivate, manage, train and develop the Ad Managers and their teams.

You will need a proven track record in media sales with at least five years experience, at least two of which should have been spent in a management role. Ideally the candidate should have held a similar post in the past. Candidates will also be considered if they have managed a sales team of six or more people. Although this is essentially a senior role, involvement with sales goes without saying.



Warwickshire
County
Council
1998
Annual
Report
and
Statement
of
Accounts
1997-98

Practical Fishkeeping seeks fishy journalist

Britain's best-selling fishkeeping magazine for the hobbyist, the award winning EMAP Active title Practical Fishkeeping, is looking for a senior journalist to join its team at Apex House in Peterborough full-time.

An interest in any area of fishkeeping (or related sciences) is a distinct advantage. The successful candidate will also display the potential to edit the magazine in the future. Candidates should write with a CV to the Managing Editor Steve Windsor at Practical Fishkeeping, Apex House, Oundle Rd, Peterborough PE2 9NE. Faxes (01733 886487) or personal e-mail (steve.windsor@ecm.emap.com) are also acceptable but no 'phone calls please.

■ Closing date for applications is September 1st.

emap.

emap Active benefits include an excellent pension scheme, free double golden per year and a smart contributory pension. We are committed to investing in our people through training and development, continual appraisals and excellent career opportunities.

Feeling like a fresher?

If you're reading this ad now, the chances are you're considering a move into media sales. Fine. But why? Do you really know what it entails? Is it really for you? All the other ads declare their desire for "intelligent, outgoing, enthusiastic, well spoken graduates", etc etc. We also seek those qualities, but more than that we want someone inquisitive minds and realistic attitudes.

As a specialist recruiter working with most of the major media owners in the capital, we believe the recruiting process needs to be a thorough exercise. So if you think media sales is for you, but are not afraid to ask some questions then get in touch.

We are also interested in graduates who are fluent in European languages.

Call Cathy or William at Phoenix Recruitment

0171 234 0480

email: phoenix-training@virgin.net

For more information have a look at our website at our web page on website <http://www.phoenixrecruitment.co.uk/phoenix-training>

422 The Linenmarket, Weston St, London EC1M 5EL

SENIOR TECHNICAL AND MARKETING MANAGER - £30K

A challenging position exists for a marketing manager with established technical experience in the computer/graphic/printing industries to take full responsibility for the development of new Japanese business. Applicants must have a proven record of success in the publishing/printing industry and be fluent in Japanese. Apply in writing with full CV to:

Mr H Sato, Satographics Ltd.
118/120 Great Titchfield St.
London W1P 7AJ

To advertise in this section
please call Anita Cassidy on
0171 293 2301 or Ransome
Kolaru on **0171 293 2332**.

INTERNET SALES EXECUTIVES
£28,000 o.e.

Young and dynamic Internet house developing a major presence in the world's oil and shipping markets is looking for more sales executives to join our expanding team.

You have excellent phone manners and some knowledge of how to use the Internet. You are confident, well spoken and happy to deal with top executives around the world.

We will pay you a basic salary and credit commission on all your sales and give you a rewarding job in a dynamic and competitive environment.

Please send CV to: Keith Warwick, Sales & Marketing Director, Polyvine Ltd, Vine House, Rockhampton, Berkeley, Glos. GL13 9DT. Tel: (01454) 261276 Fax: (01454) 261286.

TRAINEE/RECRUITMENT CONSULTANTS

CITY BASIC+OTE £55,000 1st Year Huxley Associates are one of the fastest growing specialist IT Recruitment Consultancies in the UK. We currently require hungry and ambitious candidates, preferably of graduate calibre with 12 months sales experience.

We offer a structured training program and a fast track career path. Given our commitment to expansion we believe that there are no other comparable opportunities in the industry.

For further information contact Mike Clinch or Mike Smith on 0171 325-0405.

TRANSLATORS

(Technical Legal/Software)
German translation company is looking for experienced translators with PC/ e-mail. Guaranteed payments.

Please contact: aeskenazy@t-online.de
Fax: 0049-201-606029.

MEDIA, MARKETING, SALES

www.spring.com

Spring

the future of work

Exciting Opportunities in Sales at Spring IT Training

Spring IT Training is acknowledged as the leading quality provider of IT Training in the UK and is part of the Spring Group, a first class provider of consultancy, recruitment and training services. We are now looking for highly motivated, dynamic individuals for the following sales position:

Senior Account Consultant

Package: £20k-£24k basic salary depending on experience, OTE £60k

You must have a proven track record in the industry, be proactive, professional, articulate, positive and of smart appearance. You will have excellent communications skills with the ability to remain calm under pressure. Knowledge of the IT industry and account management is preferable. We offer career opportunities with a clear development path in a positive and evolving environment.

Please apply with CV to Jacqueline Vale, Personnel Office, Spring IT Training Ltd, (the new name for Harley-West Training) Salisbury House, 30 Finsbury Circus, Clerkenwell, London EC2M 7DT. Tel: 0171 452 7310.

Spring IT Training

The new name for Harley-West Training

DEPARTMENT OF PLANNING, TRANSPORT AND ECONOMIC STRATEGY RESOURCE CENTRE MANAGER

Sir Frank Whittle Business Centre, Rugby
SO1/SO2 - £18,000 to £20,922 plus an essential car user allowance

The Resource Centre will be a purpose-built local access point for business support. Getting it up and running will be the job of the manager.

The objectives will be to provide a business information service, access to business support services and to introduce businesses to the benefits of using ICT. With on-line information systems and links to partner services it is the latest development at the Council's successful Sir Frank Whittle Business Centre.

This is an opportunity to shape a new facility and to make it work. The person we are looking for would have some experience in managing projects and of providing advice to businesses. They must have excellent interpersonal skills. The ability to set up and run I.C.T. systems will be essential.

Application forms and further information are available from the Personnel Unit, Department of Planning, Transport & Economic Strategy, PO Box 43 Shire Hall, Warwick, CV34 4SX. Tel (01926) 412458 (24 hour answerphone).

Closing date for applications 18th September 1998.

Interviews will be held in Rugby on 30th September 1998.

Warwickshire County Council

COMMITTED TO EQUAL OPPORTUNITIES

<http://www.warwickshire.gov.uk>

APPOINTMENTS DIARY

Monday
IT, Science,
Engineering

Tuesday
Media, Marketing,
Sales

Wednesday
Finance, Legal,
Secretarial

Thursday
Education, Graduate

Sunday
Public General

Sales Reps**BIG REWARDS FOR THE RIGHT TEAM**

SmartCell are a specialist telecommunications company supplying major corporates, & local government with SmartCell Phonocells. A Phonocell connects to company's switchboard, and provides landline to mobile calls 50% cheaper than BT. Call costs are reduced from 30p to 12p a minute. This routinely shows savings for our present clients amounting to tens of thousands of pounds. Phonocells are inexpensive and virtually sell themselves. We currently sell only to large organisations, however we are about to launch the Phonocell into the small & medium company market.

To help us do this we require intelligent, articulate & well dressed representatives to introduce the Phonocell to the wider market. Applicants must have own late model car & a telephone. Remuneration is by way of an excellent commission, plus an ongoing revenue bonus paid for every minute that the Phonocell is in use. The more money you save your client, the more bonus is paid to you.

Phone Philip or Mark at SmartCell Telecom
0181 683 6414
CROYDON

POLYVINE

Leading Manufacturers of Acrylic Glazes & Coatings for the Decorative Paint Market

We require a field-force to serve our ever-expanding market.

We want self-motivated people who aren't afraid of a challenge, who are confident in front of the trade & the public, and who are able to demonstrate paint techniques. An artistic flair and a sales background is a bonus. Salary is appropriate to the task.

Please send CV to: Keith Warwick, Sales & Marketing Director, Polyvine Ltd, Vine House, Rockhampton, Berkeley, Glos. GL13 9DT. Tel: (01454) 261276 Fax: (01454) 261286.

Agrochemicals/pharmaceuticals company seeks EXPORT MANAGER

to handle sales to Iran. The successful applicant will have extensive senior industry experience, fluency in Farsi, familiarity with Iranian business practice, and the ability to travel freely in the region. Salary £35,000.

Apply in writing with full CV to:

Mr Bryan Shand, Agropharm Ltd, Buckingham House, Church Road, Penn, High Wycombe, Bucks HP10 8LN

"Mirror Group"**SCRUTINEER/PROOF READER**

Mirror Advertising Production department has a vacancy for a Night Scrutineer.

Applicants must have grammatical English, good spelling is essential, be computer literate and have an eye for detail.

This shift is 5 nights per week, 7.00pm-2.30am, training will be given on our systems.

In addition to a competitive salary, we also offer free health insurance and many other substantial benefits.

Please write with C.V. and full salary history to:

Maurice Sayers, Production Manager, One Canada Square, Canary Wharf, London E14 5AP.

Deliver marketing excellence to the UK's No. 1 carrier**HEAD OF LOGISTICS SALES & MARKETING**
Milton Keynes, c£40k, plus car, benefits and bonus.

Parcelforce Worldwide is at the forefront of change and development. We have recently undertaken a major re-organisation which has sharpened our market focus and responsiveness and brought profit accountability closer to the front line. Next year we will open a £100m, state-of-the-art distribution centre which will provide the ideal capability to launch our services into the 21st century. These developments demonstrate our commitment to respond to the competitive realities of a fast changing, customer oriented environment.

Contributing to the development of policy and strategy for the Logistics Division of Parcelforce Worldwide, this role has two strands. Firstly, full profit and loss management responsibility for the origination and implementation of Territory sales and marketing plans together with the identification of new business opportunities and niche markets.

Secondly, the management and development of major national accounts to achieve market leading standards of quality, service and value. Specific responsibilities include:

- Marshalling and prioritising resources, and setting standards, benchmarks and skill levels for the achievement of sales targets and the development of client solutions;

Please send your CV and salary details with an appropriate covering letter to:

Peter Wilkinson, Head of Resourcing & Development, Parcelforce Worldwide, Solaris Court, Davy Avenue, Knowlhill, Milton Keynes, MK5 8PP.

To arrive no later than 4th September 1998.

Parcelforce Worldwide is an equal opportunities employer.

PARCEL FORCE
WORLDWIDE

**Spread your wings****A GREAT SALES OPPORTUNITY FOR GRADUATES TO JOIN THE EXCITING ENVIRONMENT OF CLASSIFIED ADVERTISING :**

Due to continued success and a steady expansion programme, we are currently seeking dynamic, dedicated people to join our sales team.

If you are ambitious, tenacious, and hungry for a sales orientated job with a successful national broadsheet newspaper, then we want to hear from you.

We offer an excellent salary package, first class training, structured career progression, free health care and free gym, and of course all the potential and excitement that comes from working within the newspaper publishing industry. This is an opportunity you can't afford to miss.

THE INDEPENDENT

For an initial telephone interview please call:

0171 293 2675

19th floor, One Canada Square, Canary Wharf, London E1 4SD.

SALES ACCOUNTS MANAGER

Applicants must possess enthusiasm for working under pressure, knowledge of Black Music incorporating Reggae and Soul.

This job is not for the faint-hearted or misguided.

Personnel Manager,
J.S. Video,
PO Box 2500,
London NW10 7NW.

London based fashion company requires Sales and Marketing Director to play the lead

NEW FILMS

APRIL STORY/FRIED DRAGON FISH (NC)

Director: Shunji Iwai
Starring: Takako Matsu, Kaori Fuji (April Story); Miyuki Yamamoto (Fried Dragon Fish)

April Story is a wistful drama about love and friendship centred around a teenager beginning university. *Fried Dragon Fish* is a tongue-in-cheek cop thriller. Both demonstrate a lack of imagination and a tendency to fall back on the mannerisms of their respective genres. West End: ICA Cinema

THE HORSE WHISPERER (PG)

Director: Robert Redford
Starring: Robert Redford, Kristin Scott Thomas
Robert Redford has never directed himself before, and we should be grateful - the love-affair on screen between Robert Redford and Robert Redford is one of the most intensely unsettling ever seen. He plays Tom Booker, a Montana farmer who specialises in equine psychology. A New York magazine editor (Kristin Scott Thomas) whose daughter has been traumatised in a riding accident brings her daughter and the girl's horse to Booker, hoping for them to be cured. The picture is efficiently acted, but it's despicably shallow. West End: ABC Tottenham Court Road, Barbican Screen, Chelsea Cinema, Clapham Picture House, Hammersmith Virgin, Notting Hill Coronet, Odeon Camden Town, Odeon Kensington, Odeon Leicester Square, Odeon Marble Arch, Odeon Swiss Cottage, Screen on Baker Street, Screen on the Hill, UCI Whiteleys, Virgin Fulham Road, Virgin Fulham Road.

LOCK, STOCK AND TWO SMOKING BARRELS (18)

Director: Guy Ritchie
Starring: Dexter Fletcher, Vinnie Jones
While Lock, Stock and Two Smoking Barrels mixes deadpan humour with cold brutality & la Tarantino, the film's defining characteristic is its residual morality.

Ritchie's direction is showy to the point of distraction, but, beneath the cruel violence and coarse humour, this is a nostalgic piece, as

hinted at by the closing nod to *The Italian Job*. West End: ABC Tottenham Court Road, Elephant & Castle Coronet, Hammersmith Virgin, Odeon Camden Town, Odeon Kensington, Odeon Marble Arch, Odeon Swiss Cottage, Plaza, Ritzy Cinema, Screen on Baker St, UCI Whiteleys, Virgin Chelsea, Virgin Trocadero, Warner Village West End.

MR NICE GUY (15)

Director: Samo Hung
Starring: Jackie Chan, Richard Norton, Miki Lee
This largely disappointing addition to Jackie Chan's oeuvre does have its moments. But the combination of comedy and adventure doesn't gel. West End: Virgin Trocadero

THE PROPOSITION (15)

Director: Lesli Linka Glatter
Starring: Kenneth Branagh, Madeleine Stowe
Historical drama unavailable for preview at time of going to press. West End: ABC Paxton Street

THE REAL HOWARD SPITZ (PG)

Director: Vadim Jean
Starring: Kelsey Grammer, Amanda Donohoe
From the director of *Leon the Pig Farmer* comes this sunny little comedy starring Kelsey "Frasier" Grammer as a grouch kids' writer who hates children. Makes up in verve and wit what it lacks in originality. West End: UCI Whiteleys, Virgin Trocadero

THE SPANISH PRISONER (PG)

Director: David Mamet
Starring: Campbell Scott, Steve Martin
David Mamet's intricate little thriller is a playful exercise in twisting a plot until it locks. There is a scientific detachment about why he explores every permutation of his Kafkaesque scenario, though the movie is also silly funny.

West End: Gate Notting Hill, Odeon Camden Town, Odeon Swiss Cottage, Phoenix Cinema, Ritzy Cinema, Screen on the Green, Virgin Fulham Road, Virgin Haymarket, Warner Village West End.

Ryan Gilbey

GENERAL RELEASE

THE ADVENTURES OF ROBIN HOOD (U)

A perfect antidote to the bombast of *Armageddon* can be found in Michael Curtiz's merry and inventive romp, one of the greatest swashbucklers ever made. West End: Clapham Picture House

ARMAGEDDON (12)

This deeply stupid film purports to be a tender love story, a messy action adventure and a global disaster movie in which a meteor is on a collision course with Earth. Every moment is carefully engineered to include something for all the family, yet its jumble of styles will end up pleasing no one. West End: ABC Tottenham Court Road, Hammersmith Virgin, Odeon Camden Town, Odeon Kensington, Odeon Marble Arch, Odeon Swiss Cottage, Plaza, UCI Whiteleys, Virgin Chelsea, Virgin Fulham Road, Virgin Trocadero, Warner Village West End.

GODZILLA (PG)
The team which cooked up such blockbusters as *Starzage* and *Independence Day* is generally very adept at constructing enjoyable adventures. Unfortunately, in this remake of the fifties kitch classic, their light touch has deserted them. West End: Empire Leicester Square, Odeon Camden Town, UCI Whiteleys

HANA-BI (18)

Director-star Takeshi Kitano picked up the Golden Lion at last year's Venice Film Festival with this violent yet elegiac portrait of a brutal Japanese policeman who finds himself pushed over the edge by his traumatic personal life. West End: ABC Shaftesbury Avenue, Clapham Picture House, Metro

THE LITTLE MERMAID (U)

This sprightly adaptation of Hans Christian Andersen's story began a string of hits for the newly rejuvenated Disney Studios. Pleasantly jaunty holiday fare. West End: Odeon Kensington, Odeon Swiss Cottage, Ritzy Cinema, UCI Whiteleys, Virgin Chelsea, Virgin Trocadero, Warner Village West End

THE AVENGERS (12)
Ralph Fiennes dons the bowler hat and wields the cane as Steed, Uma Thurman pours herself into a cat suit as Emma Peel, while Sean Connery sashays around in a kit as August De Wynter. In most ways a disappointment - to both lovers of the original, and to fans of the main performers. West End: Odeon Kensington, UCI Whiteleys, Virgin Chelsea, Virgin Trocadero, Warner Village West End

BARNEY'S GREAT ADVENTURE (U)

Feature-length exploits for the big, jolly dinosaur whose blend of nursery rhymes, day-glo colours and moral lessons makes him ideal for the more undemanding pre-school viewer - but an endurance test for anyone else. West End: UCI Whiteleys, Virgin Chelsea, Virgin Trocadero

LE BOSSU (15)
Sumptuous swashbucklers are fast becoming French cinema's stock-in-trade. This effort doesn't break much new ground, but is acted and shot with such magnificent braggadocio that its lack of originality is never a problem. And it's great to see the superb Daniel Auteuil in an action role. West End: Curzon Mayfair, Richmond Filmhouse

THE CASTLE (15)

When his home is threatened with demolition to make way for an airport, truck driver Darryl Kerrigan (Michael Caton), together with his family and friends, decides to fight back and stand up for his rights. West End: Empire Leicester Square, Odeon Swiss Cottage

THE DAYTRIPPERS (15)
Worried that her husband (Stanley Tucci) may be having an affair, Eliza (Hope Davis) confides in her parents, only to find that the whole family insist on accompanying her to Manhattan for the day to confront him. Writer-director Greg Motolla charts the tensions of the family car journey with unerring wit. West End: Odeon Camden Town, Virgin Fulham Road, Virgin Haymarket

DR DOLITTLE (PG)
Within the restrictions of a PG certificate, Eddie Murphy shows that his talents are more pliable than they might have first appeared. West End: Elephant & Castle Coronet, Hammersmith Virgin, Odeon Kensington, Odeon Marble Arch, UCI Whiteleys, Virgin Trocadero, Warner Village West End

EVE'S BAYOU (15)
See *The Independent Recommends*, above. West End: Odeon Mezzanine, Plaza, Ritzy Cinema, Ritzy Cinema, UCI Whiteleys, Virgin Trocadero

FIRELIGHT (15)

Starchly 19th-century melodrama starring Sophie Marceau as a Swiss governess who bears a child for the wealthy aristocrat Stephen Dillane, then devotes the rest of her life to finding the girl. West End: Curzon Minerva

GADJO Dilo (15)

Stephane, a young Parisian, journeys through rural Romania on a quest for Nora Luca, the tasseyp singer whose music he discovered through his father. There is a warmth and humour to the storytelling and an integrity which pushes this film way beyond being mere sentimental travegue. West End: Renoir

THE X-FILES (15)

Pleasing thriller starring Bill Pullman as Daryl Zero, the world's greatest private investigator. Ultimately, the film feels a little shallow, but it puts a smile on your face. Nice to see a rare screen appearance from Ryan O'Neal. West End: Clapham Picture House, Warner Village West End

ZERO EFFECT (15)

Starchly 19th-century melodrama starring Sophie Marceau as a Swiss governess who bears a child for the wealthy aristocrat Stephen Dillane, then devotes the rest of her life to finding the girl. West End: Curzon Minerva

SCREW THE X-FILES (15)

Stephane, a young Parisian, journeys through rural Romania on a quest for Nora Luca, the tasseyp singer whose music he discovered through his father. There is a warmth and humour to the storytelling and an integrity which pushes this film way beyond being mere sentimental travegue. West End: Renoir

THE INDEPENDENT RECOMMENDS

Film Ryan Gilbey

GUS VAN SANT'S startling first film, *Mala Noche*, made in 1985, has been out of circulation for years. It's a raw but lyrical love story about a white twentysomething (Tim Streeter) who falls for a teenage Mexican and devotes his time to trying to sleep with him. The film is a model of tenderness, off-screen as well as on: faced

with a supporting actor unwilling to implicate himself in gay love scenes, Van Sant was forced to edit together ambiguous shots to fabricate intimacy. Isn't that the essence of the film-making process?

ICA Cinematheque, London SW1 (0171-930 3647) 6.30pm, 8.30pm

The Louisiana melodrama Eve's Bayou (above) comes across like rehearsed *Fried Green Tomatoes*, but it boasts a succulent performance from Samuel L Jackson as a philandering doctor. When his female patients beg him to administer "something for the pain", they're not talking about aspirin.

On general release

Theatre Dominic Cavendish

THE CAST are probably getting a bit sick of it by now, but you're unlikely to notice - Trevor Nunn's staging of Oklahoma starring Maureen Lipman (below), is so polished, it's positively cinematic. Whether you love or

loathe musicals, there's a

euphoria in the classic Rodgers and Hammerstein portrait of turn-of-the-century frontier folk that is catching. Olivier, Royal National Theatre, London SE1 (0171-452 3000) 7.15pm
I Licked a Slag's Deodorant, Jim Cartwright's grimy two-hander about a crack-addicted prostitute and a lonely man seeking mutual solace, sounds tasteless, but it has an unforgottably tart lyricism.

Assembly Rooms, Edinburgh (0131-226 2428) 3.10pm

Ryan Gilbey

CINEMA

WEST END

ODEON CAMDEN TOWN

(0171-315 7902) ♦ Camden Town Armageddon 8.15pm, 11.30pm The Daytrippers 8.15pm, 9.45pm, 11.15pm Dr Dolittle 11am, 1pm, 3pm, 5pm, 7pm Eve's Bayou 4.35pm, 7.05pm, 9.40pm Godzilla 3.25pm, 5.05pm, 8.40pm The Horse Whisperer 1.05pm, 2.05pm, 2.20pm The Little Mermaid 12.00am Lock, Stock And Two Smoking Barrels 1pm, 3.30pm, 6.20pm, 9.05pm Lost In Space 8.15pm The Magic Sword: Quest For Camelot 12.05pm, 2.20pm, 4.05pm, 6.45pm, 8.45pm, 10.45pm The X-Files 12.30pm, 3.30pm, 6.30pm

ODEON HAYMARKET

(0171-315 4212) ♦ Piccadilly Circus The X-Files 1.15pm, 4pm, 6.45pm, 9.15pm

ODEON KENSINGTON

(0171-315 4214) ♦ High Street Kensington Armageddon 1.45pm, 5.30pm The Daytrippers 2.05pm, 5.30pm Dr Dolittle 1.15pm, 2.15pm, 4.05pm, 6.05pm, 8.05pm The Horse Whisperer 1.25pm, 5.05pm, 8.45pm The Little Mermaid 11.40am Lock, Stock And Two Smoking Barrels 1.05pm, 3.30pm, 6.20pm, 9.05pm The X-Files 12.30pm, 3.30pm, 6.30pm

ODEON LEICESTER SQUARE

(0171-315 4215) ♦ Leicester Square Piccadilly Circus The X-Files 1.15pm, 4pm, 6.45pm, 9.15pm

ODEON MARBLE ARCH

(0171-315 4216) ♦ Marble Arch Armageddon 1.15pm, 5.30pm The Daytrippers 1.15pm, 4.05pm, 6.45pm, 9.15pm Dr Dolittle 12.20pm, 2.20pm, 4.05pm, 6.05pm, 8.05pm The Horse Whisperer 1.25pm, 5.05pm, 8.45pm The Little Mermaid 11.40am Lock, Stock And Two Smoking Barrels 1.05pm, 3.30pm, 6.20pm, 9.05pm The X-Files 12.30pm, 3.30pm, 6.30pm

ODEON SWISS CENTRE

(0171-439 4470) ♦ Leicester Square Piccadilly Circus The Daytrippers 1.15pm, 4.05pm, 6.45pm, 9.15pm Dr Dolittle 1.25pm, 3.25pm, 6.10pm, 9.05pm The Horse Whisperer 1.25pm, 5.05pm, 8.45pm The Little Mermaid 11.40am Lock, Stock And Two Smoking Barrels 1.05pm, 3.30pm, 6.20pm, 9.05pm The X-Files 12.30pm, 3.30pm, 6.30pm

ODEON TOTTENHAM COURT ROAD

(0171-636 6148) ♦ Tottenham Court Road Armageddon 1.45pm, 5.30pm The Daytrippers 2.05pm, 5.30pm Dr Dolittle 1.15pm, 3.15pm, 6.10pm, 9.15pm The Horse Whisperer 1.25pm, 5.05pm, 8.45pm The Little Mermaid 11.40am Lock, Stock And Two Smoking Barrels 1.05pm, 3.30pm, 6.20pm, 9.05pm The X-Files 12.30pm, 3.30pm, 6.30pm

ODEON SWISS CINEMA

(0171-382 7000) ♦ Moorgate, Barbican A Bucket of Blood 8.45pm The Horse Whisperer 5.30pm, 8.30pm The Man With The X-Ray Eyes 6.45pm

ODEON SWISS CINEMA

(0171-351 3742) ♦ Sloane Square The Horse Whisperer 1.05pm, 4.25pm, 7.50pm

ODEON SWISS COTTAGE

(0171-315 4220) ♦ Swiss Cottage Armageddon 1.15pm, 5.30pm The Daytrippers 1.15pm, 4.05pm, 6.45pm, 9.15pm Dr Dolittle 1.25pm, 3.25pm, 6.10pm, 9.05pm The Horse Whisperer 1.25pm, 5.05pm, 8.45pm The Little Mermaid 11.40am Lock, Stock And Two Smoking Barrels 1.05pm, 3.30pm, 6.20pm, 9.05pm The X-Files 12.30pm, 3.30pm, 6.30pm

ODEON TOTTENHAM COURT ROAD

(0171-437 2242) ♦ Leicester Square The Daytrippers 1.15pm, 4.05pm, 6.45pm, 9.15pm Dr Dolittle 1.25pm, 3.25pm, 6.10pm, 9.05pm The Horse Whisperer 1.25pm, 5.05pm, 8.45pm The Little Mermaid 11.40am Lock, Stock And Two Smoking Barrels 1.05pm, 3.30pm, 6.20pm, 9.05pm The X-Files 12.30pm, 3.30pm, 6.30pm

ODEON WEST END

(0171-315 4221) ♦ Leicester Square 42nd Street 1.30pm, 5.30pm, 8.30pm The Daytrippers 1.15pm, 4.05pm, 6.45pm, 9.15pm Dr Dolittle 1.25pm, 3.25pm, 6.10pm, 9.05pm The Big Lebowski 2.05pm, 5.30pm The Horse Whisperer 1.25pm, 5.05pm, 8.45pm The Little Mermaid 11.40am Lock, Stock And Two Smoking Barrels 1.05pm, 3.30pm, 6.20pm, 9.05pm The X-Files 12.30pm, 3.30pm, 6.30pm

ODEON MEZZATINE

(0181-315 4215) ♦ Leicester Square The Bayou 1.45pm, 4pm, 6.45pm, 8.45pm Titanic 12.05pm, 2.20pm, 4.15pm, 6.10pm, 8.15pm The X-Files 12.30

20/LISTINGS

HAMMERSMITH
VIRGIN [0870-9070718] ♦ Ravenscourt Park/Hammersmith Armageddon 8pm, 8.30pm Dr Dolittle 12.15pm, 2.20pm The Horse Whisperer 1.20pm, 4.50pm, 8.15pm Lock, Stock And Two Smoking Barrels 12.40pm, 3.30pm, 6.30pm, 9.10pm The X-Files 12.15pm, 3pm, 6pm, 8pm

HARROW
SAFARI CINEMA [0181-426 0303] ♦ Harrow-on-the-Hill/Harrow & Wealdstone Duplicate 8.45pm Ghulam 1.30pm, 5pm Kereeb 8.45pm Major Saab 1.30pm, 5pm

HARROW
WARNER [0181-427 9009] ♦ Harrow-on-the-Hill Armageddon 11.40am, 2.50pm, 6pm, 8.40pm, 9.10pm, 11.40pm The Avengers 7.40pm, 9.50pm, 11.45pm Barney's Great Adventure 10.40am Dr Dolittle 10am, 12.20pm, 2.20pm, 4.20pm, 6.10pm, 8.30pm, 11.45pm The Horse Whisperer 10.10am, 1.40pm, 5.20pm, 8.50pm The Little Mermaid 11.20pm, 3.10pm Lock, Stock And Two Smoking Barrels 11.30am, 1.50pm, 4pm, 7.20pm, 9.30pm, 12.20pm Lost In Space 12.50pm, 3.50pm, 6.40pm, 9.40pm The Magic Sword: Quest For Camelot 1.10pm, 5.10pm The X-Files 10.20am, 10.50am, 1pm, 1.30pm, 3.40pm, 4.10pm, 6.20pm, 6.50pm, 9pm, 9.40pm, 11.50pm, 12.10am

HOLLOWAY
ODEON [0181-315 4213] ♦ Holloway Road/Archway Armageddon 1.30pm, 4.35pm, 7.40pm The Avengers 9.15pm Barney's Great Adventure 11.45am Dr Dolittle 12noon, 2.15pm, 3pm, 4.20pm, 5.05pm, 6.25pm, 7.10pm Eve's Bayou 6.20pm, 8.50pm Godzilla 3.10pm, 4.15pm, 5.55pm Lock, Stock And Two Smoking Barrels 1.40pm, 4.15pm, 6.30pm, 8.30pm Lost In Space 8.30pm The Magic Sword: Quest For Camelot 12.35pm The Real Howard Pardub 2.30pm, 4.50pm, 7pm, 9.10pm The X-Files 12.40pm, 3.20pm, 6pm, 8pm

JLFORD
ODEON [0181-315 4223] ♦ Gants Hill Armageddon 1.20pm, 4.30pm, 7.50pm Barney's Great Adventure 11.40am Dr Dolittle 12noon, 2.20pm, 4.40pm, 6.40pm, 9pm The Horse Whisperer 12.40pm, 4.10pm, 7.40pm Lock, Stock And Two Smoking Barrels 12.10pm, 3pm, 5.50pm, 8.30pm The X-Files 12.10pm, 2.50pm, 5.40pm, 8.40pm

KINGSTON
ABC OPTIONS [0870-9020409] BR: Kingston Armageddon 7.45pm Dr Dolittle 1.45pm, 3.45pm, 5.45pm Lock, Stock And Two Smoking Barrels 1.00pm, 3.05pm, 5.35pm, 8.05pm The Magic Sword: Quest For Camelot 12.20pm The X-Files 2pm, 5.30pm, 8.15pm

MUSWELL HILL
ODEON [0181-315 4217] ♦ Highgate Armageddon 8.05pm Dr Dolittle 2.05pm, 2.55pm, 4.35pm, 6.15pm The Horse Whisperer 12.50pm, 4.10pm, 7.40pm The Magic Sword: Quest For Camelot 12.20pm The X-Files 1.25pm, 4pm, 6.35pm, 9.10pm, 11.45pm

PECKHAM
PENNIER [0181-235 3006] BR: Peckham Rye Armageddon 2.55pm, 6pm, 8.05pm Barney's Great Adventure 12.35pm Dr Dolittle 12.15pm, 2pm, 3.55pm, 5.45pm, 7.35pm Eve's Bayou 7.10pm, 9.30pm, 11.50pm Godzilla 2.10pm, 4.40pm Grease (20th Anniversary Edition) 2.20pm The Horse Whisperer 2.05pm, 5.25pm, 8.45pm The Little Mermaid 12.25pm Lock, Stock And Two Smoking Barrels 4.35pm, 7pm, 9.25pm, 11.55pm The Magic Sword: Quest For Camelot 12.10pm Paulie 12.30pm Soul Food 12midnight The X-Files 1.25pm, 4pm, 6.35pm, 9.10pm, 11.45pm

PURLEY
ABC [0870-9020407] BR: Purley Armageddon 7.40pm Dr Dolittle 1.25pm, 3.25pm, 5.25pm Lock, Stock And Two Smoking Barrels 2.40pm, 5.40pm, 8.30pm The X-Files 2.10pm, 5.10pm, 8.10pm

PUTNEY
ABC [0870 9020401] ♦ Putney Bridge, BR: Putney Armageddon 8pm Dr Dolittle 1.15pm, 3.30pm, 5.45pm, 7.45pm The Horse Whisperer 12.45pm, 4.15pm, 6.15pm, 8.15pm The X-Files 2.15pm, 5.15pm, 8.30pm

LONDON
NET South Bank SE1 [0171-633 0724/928 3232] An Introduction To Indian Cinema - The World's Biggest Film Producing Region: Tuesday Lecture (NC) 1pm Sliding Doors (15) 2.30pm Poll De Carote: Julian Duvivier (NC) 6.15pm Blade Runner - The Director's Cut (15) 6.20pm Out Of The Past (PG) 6.30pm Still (NC) 8.30pm This Is Sinatra! (TV) 8.45pm

AN IDEAL HUSBAND Christopher Innes' 1907 classic production of Wilde's comedy. Theatrical Royal Hammersmith, SW1 [0171-930 8800] ♦ Picc Cir, Mon-Sat 8pm, [4] 7pm, [7] 8pm, [8] 9pm

IMELDA STAUNTON AND HER BIG BAND Acclaimed actress backed by a ten-piece band. Dorset West End, Exmouth Street, WC2 [0171-369 1423] ♦ Covert Garden, Mon-Sat 7.30pm, [8] 8pm, [9] 9pm

THE HONEST WHORE Middleton and Delder's collaborative melodrama. The Globe New Globe, Wal, SE1 [0171-401 9919] ♦ London Bridge, rep. tonigh

THE CLOVER DIVAS AT THE DONMAR - JULIEN DUVIVIER AND HER BIG BAND Acclaimed actress backed by a ten-piece band. Dorset West End, Exmouth Street, WC2 [0171-369 1423] ♦ Covert Garden, Mon-Sat 7.30pm, [8] 8pm, [9] 9pm

RODOLPHO Philip Schofield

talks to the animals in this new stage adaptation featuring Jim Benson Puppets. Labatt's Apollo Hammersmith Queen Caroline Street, W6 [0171-416 6022] ♦ Hammersmith, Tue-Sat 7.30pm, [4], [5] 7pm, [7] 8pm, [8] 9pm

THE SCREEN AT WALTON [01932-252825] BR: Walton on Thames Dr Dolittle 2.30pm, 3.55pm The Horse Whisperer 4.15pm, 7.40pm The Magic Sword: Quest For Camelot 2.20pm The X-Files 3.15pm, 5.20pm, 8.20pm

WILLESDEN [0181-830 0821] ♦ Willesden Green The Horse Whisperer 1pm, 4.20pm, 8.20pm The Magic Sword: Quest For Camelot 2.30pm

WIMBLEDON [0181-315 4222] ♦ South Wimbledon Armageddon 4.50pm, 8pm, 11.05pm Barney's Great Adventure 1.30am Dr Dolittle 1.30pm, 3pm, 5.30pm, 8.45pm The Horse Whisperer 1.30pm, 4.30pm, 7.45pm, 10.45pm Lock, Stock And Two Smoking Barrels 1.30pm, 4.30pm, 7.45pm, 10.45pm The X-Files 2pm, 5.15pm, 8pm

THE WOMAN IN BLACK Susan Hill's chilling ghost story. Alun Armstrong stars in Alan Ayckbourn's comedy. Duchess Catherine Street, WC2 [0171-494 0055] ♦ Charing X, Mon-Sat 8pm, [4] 9pm, [5] 10pm, [6] 11pm

THE COMPLETE HISTORY OF AMERICA (ABRIDGED) Reduced Shakespeare Company's keenly-contrived theatrical history lesson. Criterion, Piccadilly Circus, W1 [0171-369 1404] 5045] ♦ Picc Cir, Mon-Sat 7.30pm, [8] 8pm, [9] 9pm

THE LANDLORD Ruthie Henshall stars in this new Broadway musical. Adelphi Maiden Lane, WC2 [0171-364 0055] ♦ Charing X, Mon-Sat 8pm, [4] 9pm, [5] 10pm, [6] 11pm

THE CLOSER Superb study of contemporary sexual relationships from Dealer's Choice author Patrick Marber. Lyric Shaftesbury Avenue, W1 [0171-494 5045] ♦ Picc Cir, Mon-Sat 7.30pm, [8] 8pm, [9] 9pm

STARLIGHT EXPRESS Andrew Lloyd Webber's hi-tech roller-musical tracing the brief life of Buddy Holly. Strand Aldwych, WC2 [0171-930 8800] ♦ Soho/Cir, Mon-Sat 7.30pm, [8] 8pm, [9] 9pm

THE LANDLORD Ruthie Henshall stars in this new Broadway musical. Adelphi Maiden Lane, WC2 [0171-364 0055] ♦ Charing X, Mon-Sat 8pm, [4] 9pm, [5] 10pm, [6] 11pm

THE CLOSER Superb study of contemporary sexual relationships from Dealer's Choice author Patrick Marber. Lyric Shaftesbury Avenue, W1 [0171-494 5045] ♦ Picc Cir, Mon-Sat 7.30pm, [8] 8pm, [9] 9pm

THE COMPLETE HISTORY OF AMERICA (ABRIDGED) Reduced Shakespeare Company's keenly-contrived theatrical history lesson. Criterion, Piccadilly Circus, W1 [0171-369 1404] 5045] ♦ Picc Cir, Mon-Sat 7.30pm, [8] 8pm, [9] 9pm

THE WOMAN IN BLACK Susan Hill's chilling ghost story. Alun Armstrong stars in Alan Ayckbourn's comedy. Duchess Catherine Street, WC2 [0171-494 0055] ♦ Charing X, Mon-Sat 8pm, [4] 9pm, [5] 10pm, [6] 11pm

THE LANDLORD Ruthie Henshall stars in this new Broadway musical. Adelphi Maiden Lane, WC2 [0171-364 0055] ♦ Charing X, Mon-Sat 8pm, [4] 9pm, [5] 10pm, [6] 11pm

THE CLOSER Superb study of contemporary sexual relationships from Dealer's Choice author Patrick Marber. Lyric Shaftesbury Avenue, W1 [0171-494 5045] ♦ Picc Cir, Mon-Sat 7.30pm, [8] 8pm, [9] 9pm

STARLIGHT EXPRESS Andrew Lloyd Webber's hi-tech roller-musical tracing the brief life of Buddy Holly. Strand Aldwych, WC2 [0171-930 8800] ♦ Soho/Cir, Mon-Sat 7.30pm, [8] 8pm, [9] 9pm

THE LANDLORD Ruthie Henshall stars in this new Broadway musical. Adelphi Maiden Lane, WC2 [0171-364 0055] ♦ Charing X, Mon-Sat 8pm, [4] 9pm, [5] 10pm, [6] 11pm

THE CLOSER Superb study of contemporary sexual relationships from Dealer's Choice author Patrick Marber. Lyric Shaftesbury Avenue, W1 [0171-494 5045] ♦ Picc Cir, Mon-Sat 7.30pm, [8] 8pm, [9] 9pm

STARLIGHT EXPRESS Andrew Lloyd Webber's hi-tech roller-musical tracing the brief life of Buddy Holly. Strand Aldwych, WC2 [0171-930 8800] ♦ Soho/Cir, Mon-Sat 7.30pm, [8] 8pm, [9] 9pm

THE LANDLORD Ruthie Henshall stars in this new Broadway musical. Adelphi Maiden Lane, WC2 [0171-364 0055] ♦ Charing X, Mon-Sat 8pm, [4] 9pm, [5] 10pm, [6] 11pm

THE CLOSER Superb study of contemporary sexual relationships from Dealer's Choice author Patrick Marber. Lyric Shaftesbury Avenue, W1 [0171-494 5045] ♦ Picc Cir, Mon-Sat 7.30pm, [8] 8pm, [9] 9pm

STARLIGHT EXPRESS Andrew Lloyd Webber's hi-tech roller-musical tracing the brief life of Buddy Holly. Strand Aldwych, WC2 [0171-930 8800] ♦ Soho/Cir, Mon-Sat 7.30pm, [8] 8pm, [9] 9pm

THE LANDLORD Ruthie Henshall stars in this new Broadway musical. Adelphi Maiden Lane, WC2 [0171-364 0055] ♦ Charing X, Mon-Sat 8pm, [4] 9pm, [5] 10pm, [6] 11pm

THE CLOSER Superb study of contemporary sexual relationships from Dealer's Choice author Patrick Marber. Lyric Shaftesbury Avenue, W1 [0171-494 5045] ♦ Picc Cir, Mon-Sat 7.30pm, [8] 8pm, [9] 9pm

STARLIGHT EXPRESS Andrew Lloyd Webber's hi-tech roller-musical tracing the brief life of Buddy Holly. Strand Aldwych, WC2 [0171-930 8800] ♦ Soho/Cir, Mon-Sat 7.30pm, [8] 8pm, [9] 9pm

THE LANDLORD Ruthie Henshall stars in this new Broadway musical. Adelphi Maiden Lane, WC2 [0171-364 0055] ♦ Charing X, Mon-Sat 8pm, [4] 9pm, [5] 10pm, [6] 11pm

THE CLOSER Superb study of contemporary sexual relationships from Dealer's Choice author Patrick Marber. Lyric Shaftesbury Avenue, W1 [0171-494 5045] ♦ Picc Cir, Mon-Sat 7.30pm, [8] 8pm, [9] 9pm

STARLIGHT EXPRESS Andrew Lloyd Webber's hi-tech roller-musical tracing the brief life of Buddy Holly. Strand Aldwych, WC2 [0171-930 8800] ♦ Soho/Cir, Mon-Sat 7.30pm, [8] 8pm, [9] 9pm

THE LANDLORD Ruthie Henshall stars in this new Broadway musical. Adelphi Maiden Lane, WC2 [0171-364 0055] ♦ Charing X, Mon-Sat 8pm, [4] 9pm, [5] 10pm, [6] 11pm

THE CLOSER Superb study of contemporary sexual relationships from Dealer's Choice author Patrick Marber. Lyric Shaftesbury Avenue, W1 [0171-494 5045] ♦ Picc Cir, Mon-Sat 7.30pm, [8] 8pm, [9] 9pm

STARLIGHT EXPRESS Andrew Lloyd Webber's hi-tech roller-musical tracing the brief life of Buddy Holly. Strand Aldwych, WC2 [0171-930 8800] ♦ Soho/Cir, Mon-Sat 7.30pm, [8] 8pm, [9] 9pm

THE LANDLORD Ruthie Henshall stars in this new Broadway musical. Adelphi Maiden Lane, WC2 [0171-364 0055] ♦ Charing X, Mon-Sat 8pm, [4] 9pm, [5] 10pm, [6] 11pm

THE CLOSER Superb study of contemporary sexual relationships from Dealer's Choice author Patrick Marber. Lyric Shaftesbury Avenue, W1 [0171-494 5045] ♦ Picc Cir, Mon-Sat 7.30pm, [8] 8pm, [9] 9pm

STARLIGHT EXPRESS Andrew Lloyd Webber's hi-tech roller-musical tracing the brief life of Buddy Holly. Strand Aldwych, WC2 [0171-930 8800] ♦ Soho/Cir, Mon-Sat 7.30pm, [8] 8pm, [9] 9pm

THE LANDLORD Ruthie Henshall stars in this new Broadway musical. Adelphi Maiden Lane, WC2 [0171-364 0055] ♦ Charing X, Mon-Sat 8pm, [4] 9pm, [5] 10pm, [6] 11pm

THE CLOSER Superb study of contemporary sexual relationships from Dealer's Choice author Patrick Marber. Lyric Shaftesbury Avenue, W1 [0171-494 5045] ♦ Picc Cir, Mon-Sat 7.30pm, [8] 8pm, [9] 9pm

STARLIGHT EXPRESS Andrew Lloyd Webber's hi-tech roller-musical tracing the brief life of Buddy Holly. Strand Aldwych, WC2 [0171-930 8800] ♦ Soho/Cir, Mon-Sat 7.30pm, [8] 8pm, [9] 9pm

THE LANDLORD Ruthie Henshall stars in this new Broadway musical. Adelphi Maiden Lane, WC2 [0171-364 0055] ♦ Charing X, Mon-Sat 8pm, [4] 9pm, [5] 10pm, [6] 11pm

THE CLOSER Superb study of contemporary sexual relationships from Dealer's Choice author Patrick Marber. Lyric Shaftesbury Avenue, W1 [0171-494 5045] ♦ Picc Cir, Mon-Sat 7.30pm, [8] 8pm, [9] 9pm

STARLIGHT EXPRESS Andrew Lloyd Webber's hi-tech roller-musical tracing the brief life of Buddy Holly. Strand Aldwych, WC2 [0171-930 8800] ♦ Soho/Cir, Mon-Sat 7.30pm, [8] 8pm, [9] 9pm

THE LANDLORD Ruthie Henshall stars in this new Broadway musical. Adelphi Maiden Lane, WC2 [0171-364 0055] ♦ Charing X, Mon-Sat 8pm, [4] 9pm, [5] 10pm, [6] 11pm

THE CLOSER Superb study of contemporary sexual relationships from Dealer's Choice author Patrick Marber. Lyric Shaftesbury Avenue, W1 [0171-494 5045] ♦ Picc Cir, Mon-Sat 7.30pm, [8] 8pm, [9] 9pm

STARLIGHT EXPRESS Andrew Lloyd Webber's hi-tech roller-musical tracing the brief life of Buddy Holly. Strand Aldwych, WC2 [0171-930 8800] ♦ Soho/Cir, Mon-Sat 7.30pm, [8] 8pm, [9] 9pm

THE LANDLORD Ruthie Henshall stars in this new Broadway musical. Adelphi Maiden Lane, WC2 [0171-364 0055] ♦ Charing X, Mon-Sat 8pm, [4] 9pm, [5] 10pm, [6] 11pm

THE CLOSER Superb study of contemporary sexual relationships from Dealer's Choice author Patrick Marber. Lyric Shaftesbury Avenue, W1 [0171-494 5045] ♦ Picc Cir, Mon-Sat 7.30pm, [8] 8

TUESDAY TELEVISION

BBC1

BBC2

ITV Carlton

Channel 4

Channel 5

THE TUESDAY REVIEW
The Independent 1 September 1998

JASPER REES



TELEVISION REVIEW

EVERYTHING WAS AS IT SHOULD HAVE BEEN IN THIS MRS BRADLEY MYSTERIE (BBC1). We were in a country house in the early 1920s where the owner was called Bill, the butler, Jasper was built like a metronome, and his scullery-maid was hot to trot, and there was a penniless cod on the grove who looked like a young Nigel Havers.

Bill, the butlants had recently been buried in some corner of a foreign field that is forever England, so no one butted an eyelid when the other half started dropping dead in these parts, and then I like to lose a piece of ungrammatically crockery, in an inventory list I checked at a pub owned by a foreigner.

I counted two ovens, a broken plate and one cracked white glass, folly, tatty tea, though, rather upset about the plate, but otherwise life continued as normal. Two characters announced their engagement at the water for the hunt, and the funeral baked meats did tidy business, fully taste tea, though.

Into the world stepped the incongruous figure of Mrs Bradley, divorcee, friend of Mrs Franklin, director of Dr Friend, and owner of a junior school. She wouldn't ordinarily be seen dead with the cardbored inhabitants of the Big House, but, for the sake of the plot, they had to be seen dead with her. She's one of those people, a bit like Hercule Poirot or Lord Peter Wimsey, who can't enter a house without somehow getting murdered in the next room. It's probably some perfectly ordinary form of death, like getting of 180s shuffles, like getting

In a case of Sir Algernon's favourite burgundy, or making sure his Hon. Leatula is given a south-facing suite. When a sleuth comes to stay, the hosts lay on a corpse.

Since they enjoyed some sort of pre-war happy Gladys Mitchell's crime novels have sunk without trace, and you can see why the BBC like featured them as a vehicle for Diana Rigg and the first crime she had to solve was the drowning in the bath of a chap who turned out to be a couple of gypsies short of a Sunday luncheon. "Do you seriously expect us to believe," exclaims Gertie Billing, "that I like to lose a piece of ungrammatical crockery, in an inventory list I checked at a pub owned by a foreigner."

I thought it got away with this charade: "I don't expect to hear this or any other year."

Everard Mountjoy was really a woman I can't begin to comprehend how Everard Mountjoy brings the characters along, John Nettles has to continue his rant on the chandelier, and references to the Somme and Passchendaele are a lucky way to buy him some roundness when he doesn't deserve it.

Young Miss Brag is revealed as the number two, and tells her father that she has confined herself to a wheelchair since a nursing accident three years previously, in order to get his attention. It was the very plausibility of her explanation that made it implausible.

6.00 Business Breakfast (4772), **7.00 News** (T) (6126), **8.00 Sex Wars** (T) (705420), **8.40 Brasiers** (S) (508765), **9.00 Top Challenge** (S) (6820159), **10.30 Daily Live** (S) (T) (57713), **10.55 News**, **Local News** (T) (192449), **11.00 Style Challenge** (S) (138529), **11.25 Corn Cook, Won't Cook** (S) (T) (131513), **11.55 News**, **Local News, Weather** (T) (723463), **12.00 Through the Keyhole** (S) (T) (723503), **12.25 Weather** (S) (T) (72237), **12.40 Weather Show** (S) (T) (722660), **1.00 News**, **Weather Watcher** (T) (49333), **1.30 Local News, Weather Breakers** (S) (T) (942284), **2.05 3.45 The Weather Show** (S) (T) (2894468).

3.25 Children's BBC: **Orville and Cuddles** (F) (S) (598457), **3.30 Playday** (F) (S) (705727), **3.50 Baby World** of Richard Scarry (S) (T) (705726), **4.15 The Big Winners** (H) (S) (T) (8561059), **5.00 Byter Grove** (H) (S) (T) (618375), **5.35 Neighbours** (S) (T) (778555), **6.00 Novel Weather** (T) (81), **6.30 Regional news magazine** (T) (63), **7.00 Holiday Heaven**, **Fres** holidays for celebs, Julie McCutcheon goes to Rome (S) (T) (55555), **7.30 EastEnders**. Frank changes his mind, Grant confides in Phil and Mick gets a surprise when Teresa passes on Kira serial (S) (T) (77), **8.00 Children's BBC**: **The O Zone** (S) (498535), **8.30 Heartbreak, High**, Draz goes for work experience at the car yard (S) (T) (865710), **9.00 Have I got Old News for You** (F) (S) (T) (35355), **9.30 Nature Special**, Julian Petrelli goes on the trail of El Nino, a natural weather cycle which has occurred for thousands of years, but in 1997 and 1998, attracted mass media coverage by causing catastrophic changes that have had a devastating effect across the world (S) (T) (604665), **10.20 King of the Jungle**, The Indonesian forest fires of 1989 released 1 billion tons of carbon into the atmosphere while雨林精英 played golf, Mail/Fair reports on the web of corruption which has recently destroyed the country's economy and now threatens one of the world's last great wildernesses (S) (T) (785325).

11.00 Chicago Hope (S) (T) (69556), **11.35 Reminiscences** (Alan Menken 1994 US), **Surprisingly Un-movielike TV movie** on the subject of AIDS (but, then again, the comic one brought about the part, *An Act of Frost*, was also made for TV). An ex-con and a Harvard graduate find themselves sharing a room at an AIDS refuge (S) (T) (656284), **1.30 John BBC News 24** (6348049). To 6am.

DOCUMENTARY OF THE DAY

ORANGUTAN RESCUE (BBC1, 7pm) The ecological disaster brought about by Indonesia's dreadful forest fires, which raged for 10 months through last year and this, was rather overshadowed by the comic one brought about across South-East Asia by the collapse of the Suharto regime. However, the million hectares of forest went up in smoke, killing 8,000 orangutans, or a quarter of the world's population. Former *Ridiculous* presenter Michaela Strachan follows attempts by the Wanariset Sanctuary to rescue hundreds of injured and orphaned baby orangutans, the closest species, genetically, to man.

DRAMA OF THE DAY

SUPPLY AND DEMAND (BBC1, 9pm) A new series from the amazingly productive keyboard of Lynda La Plante, *Prisoner* (left). Plant always merits respect. After a successful pilot, the team of undercover copper, led by Michael Marlowe (right), get their own six-part series – though possibly the toughest, most ill-disciplined-and-not-so-socially-able thing is beginning to wear a bit thin. The spin this time is that the cops are members of Euclid, an experimental joint venture between police and the security services. This week, five police recruits are assigned to go undercover to investigate a drugs case. When one of them fails to report in, everybody gets a bit hairy.

FILE OF THE DAY

GENTLEMAN JIM (140pm CA, 10pm) Raoul Walsh's brilliant biopic, directed by Errol Flynn one of his most memorable roles: certainly the actor himself always felt a powerful attraction to the part. Flynn plays 19th-century San Francisco bank clerk James J. Corbett, a ferocious boxer with a fancy line in footwork and a flamboyant personality. He worked his way up from bare-knuckle waterfront bouts to become heavyweight champion of the world. This may sound a bit bloody, but it actually concentrates as much on comedy as on the fight scenes. A good-natured movie which both celebrates and satirises the savagery inherent in the American dream.

The Entertainment Channel
For local venues, don't ask around – ask Scott. Call free, 24 hours a day.
SOOT™
OBSCURE 192192
www.coal.co.uk

THE BIG BREAKFAST (S) (T) (67724), **9.25 Vanessa** (S) (T) (6953642), **10.15 This Morning** (T) (84561633), **12.20 Your Show London Today** (T) (39401), **1.30 The Jerry Springer Show** (S) (T) (7597642), **2.15 Home and Away** (T) (94552), **3.15 Dabs Supermarket Sweep** (S) (T) (6015229), **3.25 Children's TV**: **Wizards** (S) (T) (695364), **3.45 The Big Winners** (H) (S) (T) (852555), **12.30 Dream of Jeannine** (T) (65223), **1.00 TV News**, **Headlines** (T) (5960555), **3.20**

4.45 The Real World (F) (S) (T) (87236), **5.00 News**, **Weather Watcher** (T) (49333), **5.30 Weather Show** (S) (T) (722660), **6.00 News**, **Weather Breakers** (S) (T) (942284), **2.05 3.45 The Weather Show** (S) (T) (2894468), **5.00 Byter Grove** (H) (S) (T) (618375), **5.35 Neighbours** (S) (T) (778555), **6.00 Novel Weather** (T) (81), **6.30 Regional news magazine** (T) (63), **7.00 Holiday Heaven**, **Fres** holidays for celebs, Julie McCutcheon goes to Rome (S) (T) (55555), **7.30 EastEnders**. Frank changes his mind, Grant confides in Phil and Mick gets a surprise when Teresa passes on Kira serial (S) (T) (77), **8.00 Children's BBC**: **The O Zone** (S) (498535), **8.30 Heartbreak, High**, Draz goes for work experience at the car yard (S) (T) (865710), **9.00 Have I got Old News for You** (F) (S) (T) (35355), **9.30 Nature Special**, Julian Petrelli goes on the trail of El Nino, a natural weather cycle which has occurred for thousands of years, but in 1997 and 1998, attracted mass media coverage by causing catastrophic changes that have had a devastating effect across the world (S) (T) (604665), **10.20 King of the Jungle**, The Indonesian forest fires of 1989 released 1 billion tons of carbon into the atmosphere while雨林精英 played golf, Mail/Fair reports on the web of corruption which has recently destroyed the country's economy and now threatens one of the world's last great wildernesses (S) (T) (785325).

11.00 Reminiscences (Alan Menken 1994 US), **Surprisingly Un-movielike TV movie** on the subject of AIDS (but, then again, the comic one brought about the part, *An Act of Frost*, was also made for TV). An ex-con and a Harvard graduate find themselves sharing a room at an AIDS refuge (S) (T) (656284), **1.30 John BBC News 24** (6348049). To 6am.

12.00 Grace Under Fire (S) (T) (57379), **12.30 BBC Learning Zone – Open University**: **Calculations** (33579), **1.00 The Great Conurbation** (T) (60250), **2.00 The Great Historical Figures** (T) (60250), **3.00 The Great Cultural Bureau** (T) (60241), **5.00 Business and Training** (T) (60240), **5.45 Open University** (T) (6386579), **6.30 News** (T) (60734), **10.00 News**, **Mathematics** (6386579), **7.00 The Big Breakfast** (S) (T) (644533), **9.30 California Dreams** (R) (S) (T) (602255), **10.30 Charlie Chalk** (F) (S) (T) (2780285), **7.45 Smurfs** (F) (S) (T) (601517), **8.10 Get Your Own Back** (F) (S) (T) (6502020), **8.45 X-Men** (F) (S) (T) (6015229), **8.55 Sweet Valley High** (S) (T) (65225), **9.00 TV Dinners** (H) (S) (T) (852555), **10.20 Family Affairs** (S) (T) (651519), **12.30 The Big Winners** (H) (S) (T) (852555), **1.00 News**, **Weather Watcher** (T) (49333), **1.30 Weather Show** (S) (T) (722660), **2.05 3.45 The Weather Show** (S) (T) (2894468), **5.00 Byter Grove** (H) (S) (T) (618375), **5.35 Neighbours** (S) (T) (778555), **6.00 Novel Weather** (T) (81), **6.30 Regional news magazine** (T) (63), **7.00 Holiday Heaven**, **Fres** holidays for celebs, Julie McCutcheon goes to Rome (S) (T) (55555), **7.30 EastEnders**. Frank changes his mind, Grant confides in Phil and Mick gets a surprise when Teresa passes on Kira serial (S) (T) (77), **8.00 Children's BBC**: **The O Zone** (S) (498535), **8.30 Heartbreak, High**, Draz goes for work experience at the car yard (S) (T) (865710), **9.00 Have I got Old News for You** (F) (S) (T) (35355), **9.30 Nature Special**, Julian Petrelli goes on the trail of El Nino, a natural weather cycle which has occurred for thousands of years, but in 1997 and 1998, attracted mass media coverage by causing catastrophic changes that have had a devastating effect across the world (S) (T) (604665), **10.20 King of the Jungle**, The Indonesian forest fires of 1989 released 1 billion tons of carbon into the atmosphere while雨林精英 played golf, Mail/Fair reports on the web of corruption which has recently destroyed the country's economy and now threatens one of the world's last great wildernesses (S) (T) (785325).

11.00 Reminiscences (Alan Menken 1994 US), **Surprisingly Un-movielike TV movie** on the subject of AIDS (but, then again, the comic one brought about the part, *An Act of Frost*, was also made for TV). An ex-con and a Harvard graduate find themselves sharing a room at an AIDS refuge (S) (T) (656284), **1.30 John BBC News 24** (6348049). To 6am.

12.00 Grace Under Fire (S) (T) (57379), **12.30 BBC Learning Zone – Open University**: **Calculations** (33579), **1.00 The Great Conurbation** (T) (60250), **2.00 The Great Historical Figures** (T) (60250), **3.00 The Great Cultural Bureau** (T) (60241), **5.00 Business and Training** (T) (60240), **5.45 Open University** (T) (6386579), **6.30 News** (T) (60734), **10.00 News**, **Mathematics** (6386579), **7.00 The Big Breakfast** (S) (T) (644533), **9.30 California Dreams** (R) (S) (T) (602255), **10.30 Charlie Chalk** (F) (S) (T) (2780285), **7.45 Smurfs** (F) (S) (T) (601517), **8.10 Get Your Own Back** (F) (S) (T) (6502020), **8.45 X-Men** (F) (S) (T) (6015229), **8.55 Sweet Valley High** (S) (T) (65225), **9.00 TV Dinners** (H) (S) (T) (852555), **10.20 Family Affairs** (S) (T) (651519), **12.30 The Big Winners** (H) (S) (T) (852555), **1.00 News**, **Weather Watcher** (T) (49333), **1.30 Weather Show** (S) (T) (722660), **2.05 3.45 The Weather Show** (S) (T) (2894468), **5.00 Byter Grove** (H) (S) (T) (618375), **5.35 Neighbours** (S) (T) (778555), **6.00 Novel Weather** (T) (81), **6.30 Regional news magazine** (T) (63), **7.00 Holiday Heaven**, **Fres** holidays for celebs, Julie McCutcheon goes to Rome (S) (T) (55555), **7.30 EastEnders**. Frank changes his mind, Grant confides in Phil and Mick gets a surprise when Teresa passes on Kira serial (S) (T) (77), **8.00 Children's BBC**: **The O Zone** (S) (498535), **8.30 Heartbreak, High**, Draz goes for work experience at the car yard (S) (T) (865710), **9.00 Have I got Old News for You** (F) (S) (T) (35355), **9.30 Nature Special**, Julian Petrelli goes on the trail of El Nino, a natural weather cycle which has occurred for thousands of years, but in 1997 and 1998, attracted mass media coverage by causing catastrophic changes that have had a devastating effect across the world (S) (T) (604665), **10.20 King of the Jungle**, The Indonesian forest fires of 1989 released 1 billion tons of carbon into the atmosphere while雨林精英 played golf, Mail/Fair reports on the web of corruption which has recently destroyed the country's economy and now threatens one of the world's last great wildernesses (S) (T) (785325).

11.00 Reminiscences (Alan Menken 1994 US), **Surprisingly Un-movielike TV movie** on the subject of AIDS (but, then again, the comic one brought about the part, *An Act of Frost*, was also made for TV). An ex-con and a Harvard graduate find themselves sharing a room at an AIDS refuge (S) (T) (656284), **1.30 John BBC News 24** (6348049). To 6am.

12.00 Grace Under Fire (S) (T) (57379), **12.30 BBC Learning Zone – Open University**: **Calculations** (33579), **1.00 The Great Conurbation** (T) (60250), **2.00 The Great Historical Figures** (T) (60250), **3.00 The Great Cultural Bureau** (T) (60241), **5.00 Business and Training** (T) (60240), **5.45 Open University** (T) (6386579), **6.30 News** (T) (60734), **10.00 News**, **Mathematics** (6386579), **7.00 The Big Breakfast** (S) (T) (644533), **9.30 California Dreams** (R) (S) (T) (602255), **10.30 Charlie Chalk** (F) (S) (T) (2780285), **7.45 Smurfs** (F) (S) (T) (601517), **8.10 Get Your Own Back** (F) (S) (T) (6502020), **8.45 X-Men** (F) (S) (T) (6015229), **8.55 Sweet Valley High** (S) (T) (65225), **9.00 TV Dinners** (H) (S) (T) (852555), **10.20 Family Affairs** (S) (T) (651519), **12.30 The Big Winners** (H) (S) (T) (852555), **1.00 News**, **Weather Watcher** (T) (49333), **1.30 Weather Show** (S) (T) (722660), **2.05 3.45 The Weather Show** (S) (T) (2894468), **5.00 Byter Grove** (H) (S) (T) (618375), **5.35 Neighbours** (S) (T) (778555), **6.00 Novel Weather** (T) (81), **6.30 Regional news magazine** (T) (63), **7.00 Holiday Heaven**, **Fres** holidays for celebs, Julie McCutcheon goes to Rome (S) (T) (55555), **7.30 EastEnders**. Frank changes his mind, Grant confides in Phil and Mick gets a surprise when Teresa passes on Kira serial (S) (T) (77), **8.00 Children's BBC**: **The O Zone** (S) (498535), **8.30 Heartbreak, High**, Draz goes for work experience at the car yard (S) (T) (865710), **9.00 Have**